



Batgirl

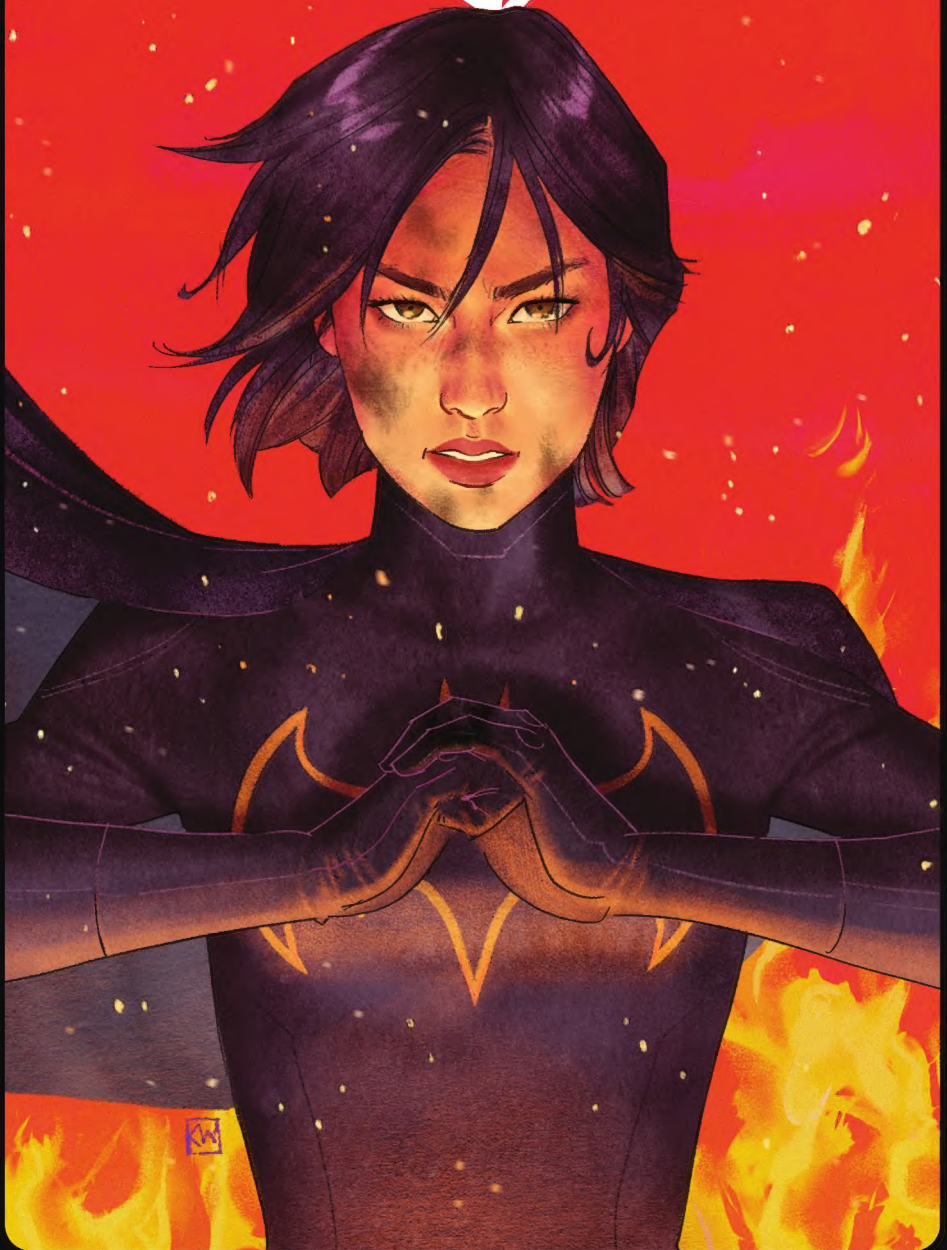


MOTHER

TATE BROMBAL TAKESHI MIYAZAWA MIKE SPICER

ALL IN

Batgirl



MOTHER



ALL IN

Batgirl

VOL. 1
MOTHER

TATE BROMBAL
WRITER

TAKESHI MIYAZAWA
ARTIST

WAYNE FAUCHER
INKER

MIKE SPICER
COLORIST

TOM NAPOLITANO
LETTERER

DAVID TALASKI
COLLECTION COVER ARTIST



Jessica Berbey Editor – Original Series & Collected Edition

Steve Cook Design Director – Books

Damian Ryland Publication Design

Christy Sawyer Publication Production

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Marie Javins VP – Editor-in-Chief

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Batgirl Vol. 1: Mother

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Batgirl #1 variant cover by Stanley "Artgerm" Lau



YOU KNOW,
I NEVER WANTED
A DAUGHTER.

GLANCE.

TOUCH.

YOU
TALK...

...LIKE I
WANTED A
MOTHER.

HEARTBEAT.

SMILE.

THESE ARE THE WAYS
MY MOTHER SAYS SHE
LOVES ME.

THAT'S
MY GIRL.

I DO NOT BELIEVE HER.



DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

BATGIRL MOTHER PART 1 OF 6

TATE BROMBAL WRITER TAKESHI MIYAZAWA ARTIST
MIKE SPICER COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS

DAVID TALASKI COVER STANLEY "ARTGERM" LAU AND JEFF DÉKAL VARIANT COVERS
SKYLAR PATRIDGE 1:25 VARIANT COVER JESSICA BERBEY EDITOR ROB LEVIN GROUP EDITOR



BUSY NIGHT PLAYING DRESS-UP?

YOU ARE LATE, CASSANDRA CAIN. WE DO NOT HAVE MUCH--

WHO IS THAT?



OH, HIM?

A FOOLISH MAN WHO SWORE HE HAD A TASTE FOR VIOLENCE...

...THOUGH I SUPPOSE HE COULDN'T QUITE STOMACH IT.



NO KILLING.

I REQUIRED PRIVACY, AND THE IMBECILE CHALLENGED--

NO KILLING.



YIELD.

LADY SHIVA NEVER YIELDS.



ARE YOU HERE FOR TERRORISM?

NO. I REQUESTED YOU HERE BECAUSE--

BYE.



CASSANDRA--

LEAVE GOTHAM.

I HAVE A GOOD LIFE, HERE.

AND YOU ARE NOT WELCOME, SHIVA.









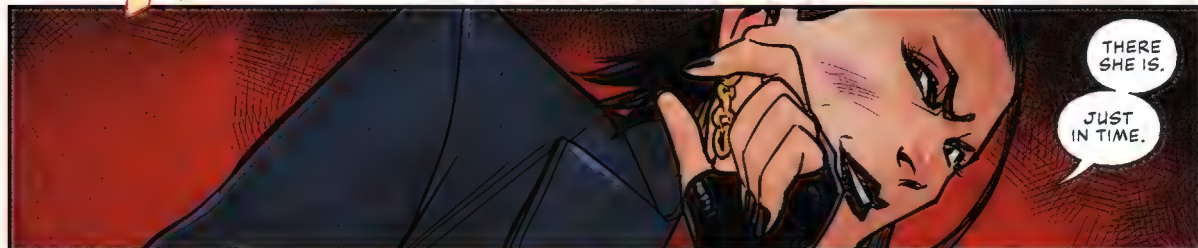
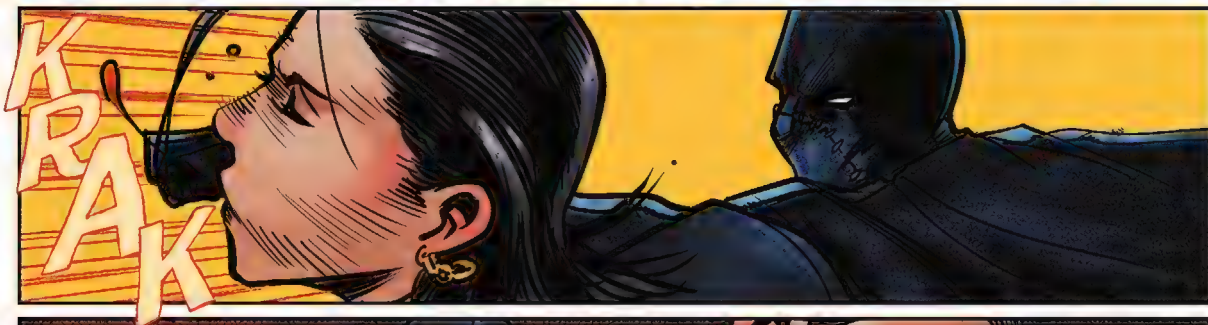
NO!

NO LUCK.

THERE IS ONLY US!



WE WILL ONLY SURVIVE THIS TOGETHER, AS MOTHER AND--



THERE SHE IS.

JUST IN TIME.



WHAT IS BURIED--

--ALWAYS COMES TO LIGHT!



MY NAME IS
CASSANDRA CAIN.

I WAS BRED TO BE THE
PERFECT WEAPON.

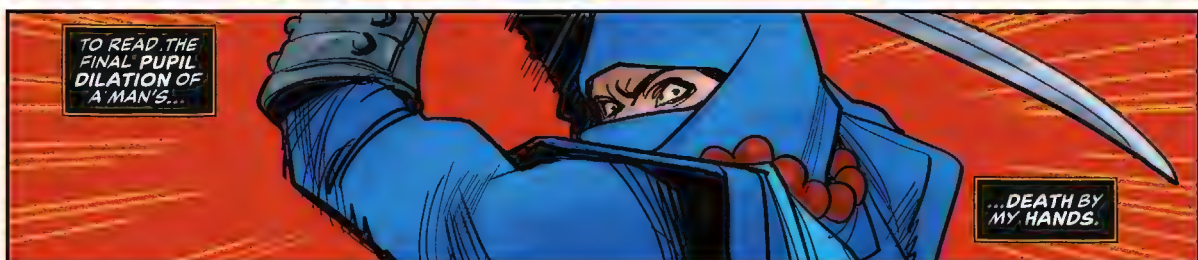
RAISED TO
BE THE WORLD'S
GREATEST KILLER.

BEFORE I KNEW
SPEECH, I ONLY
KNEW THE LANGUAGE
THE BODY SPEAKS.



TO READ
MY VICTIM'S
NEXT MOVE.

TO READ A LIE
FROM A TRUTH.



TO READ THE
FINAL PUPIL
DILATION OF
A MAN'S...

...DEATH BY
MY HANDS.



THIS WAS NOT
MY CHOICE.

MY ORIGINS WERE
NOT MY CHOICE.

NONE OF THIS WAS
EVER MY CHOICE.



BUT I AM
AN ORPHAN
BY CHOICE.



YOU GO
HIGH.

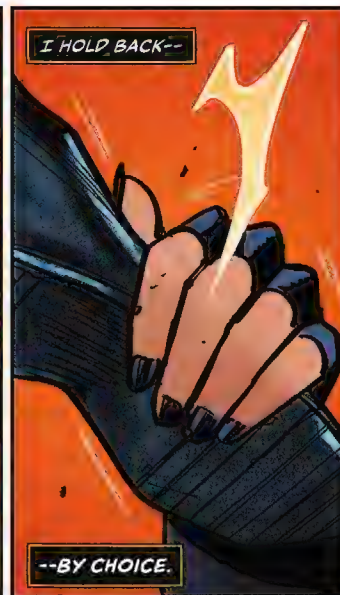
I'LL
GO--



I AM
BATMAN'S
DAUGHTER BY
CHOICE.



I KNOW HOW TO KILL.



I HOLD BACK--

--BY CHOICE.



BECAUSE I AM
BATGIRL.

AND NO ONE--

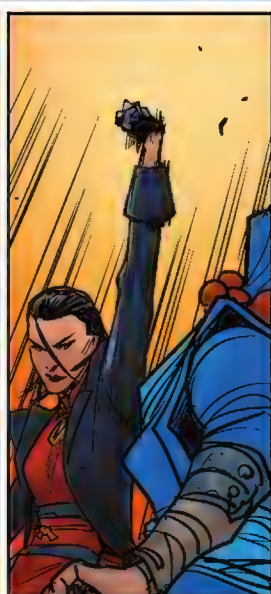
--NOT EVEN MY MOTHER--



--WILL EVER TAKE
THIS FROM ME.



READ ME.



I DO NOT LIE.





...
YOU
NEVER
YIELD.

I DO WHAT IS
NECESSARY.
ALWAYS.

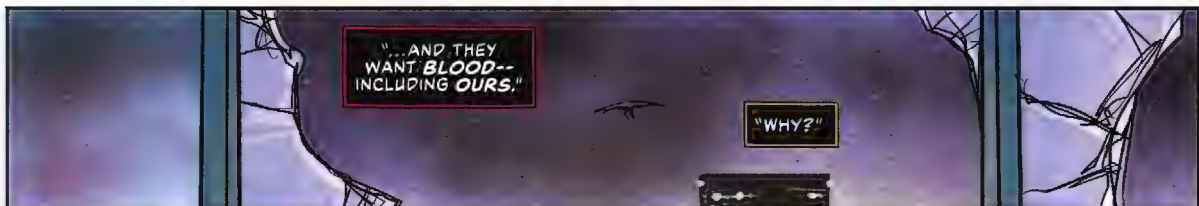
WHO
ARE
THEY?
YOU
BELIEVE
ME.
ANSWER.



"THEY CALL
THEMSELVES THE
UNBURIED."

"A LEGENDARY ORDER OF
WARRIORS WHO VANISHED
CENTURIES AGO."

"THEY HAVE
RETURNED..."



"...AND THEY
WANT BLOOD--
INCLUDING OURS."

"WHY?"



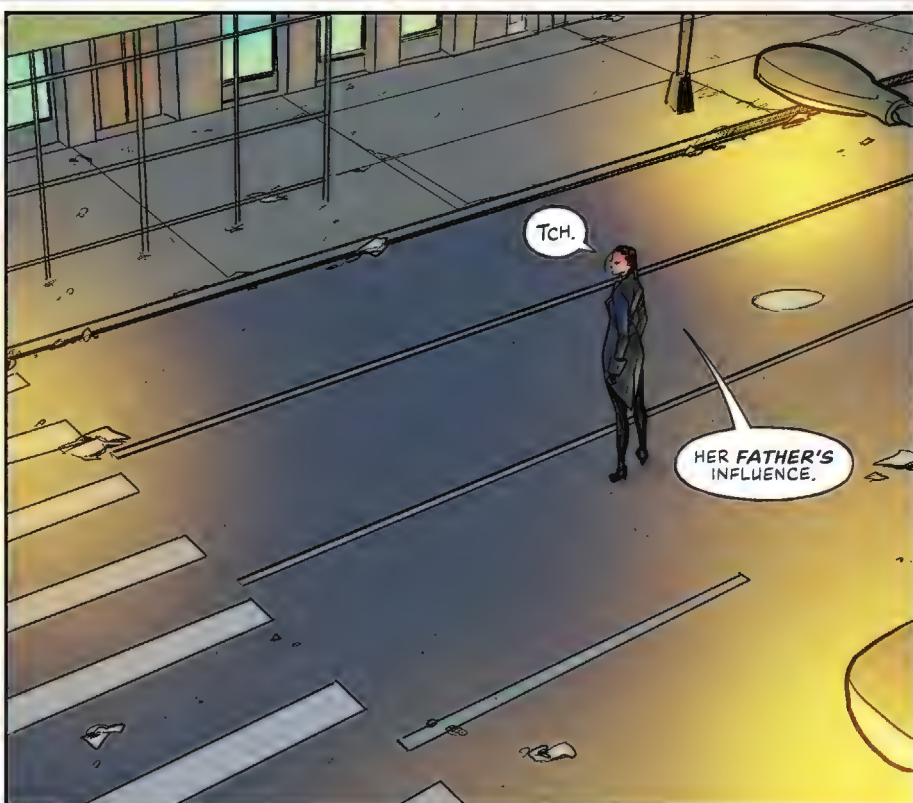
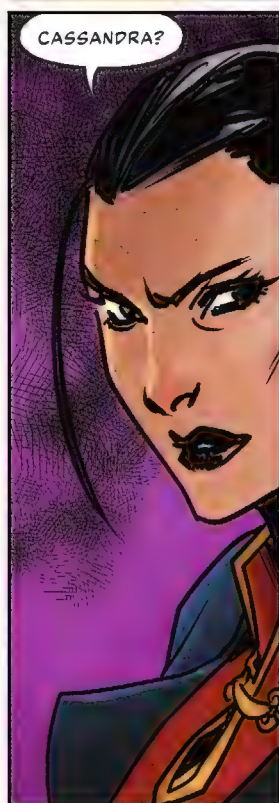
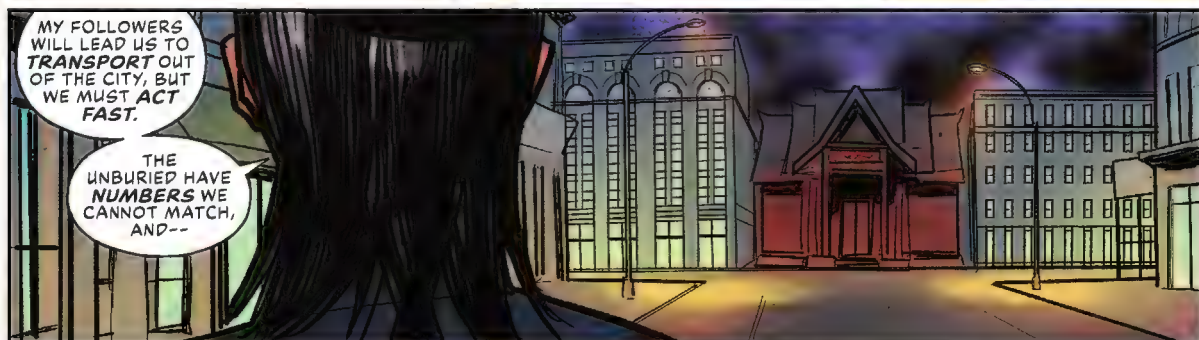
BECAUSE
YOU ARE MY
DAUGHTER,
CASSANDRA.

NO. WHY
PROTECT
ME?

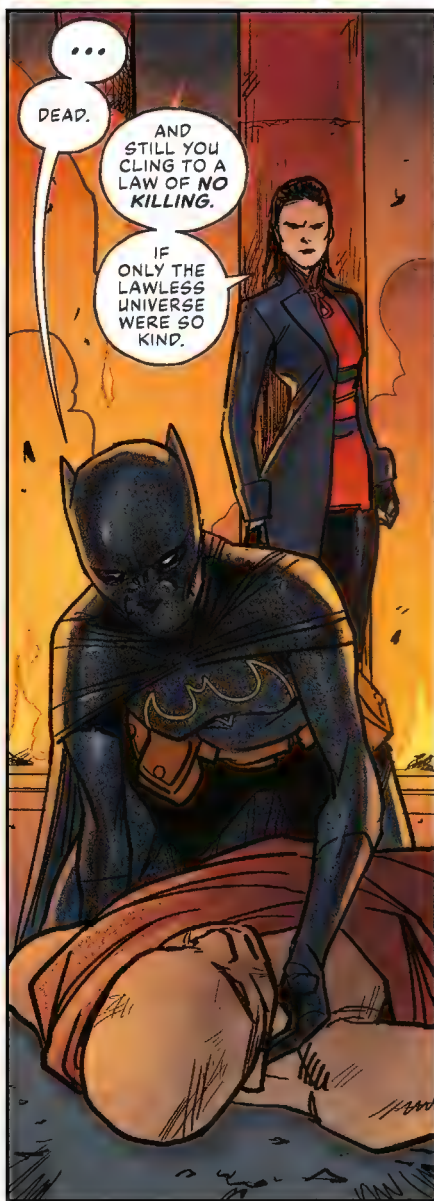
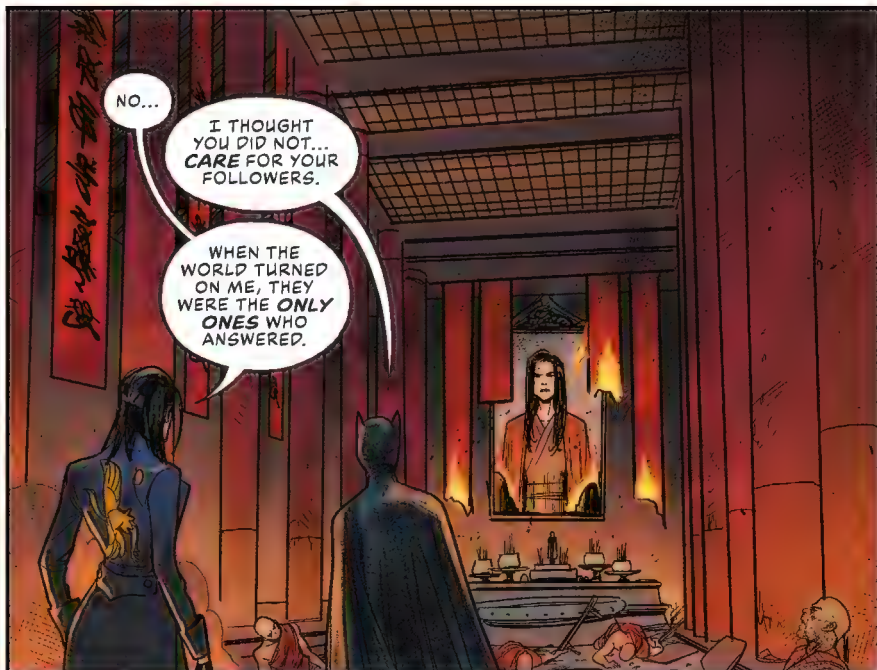
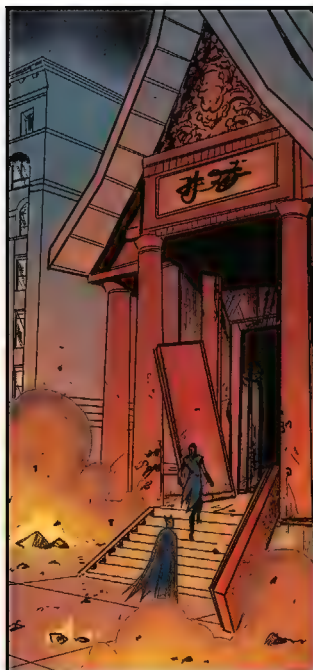
BECAUSE
I AM YOUR
MOTHER.

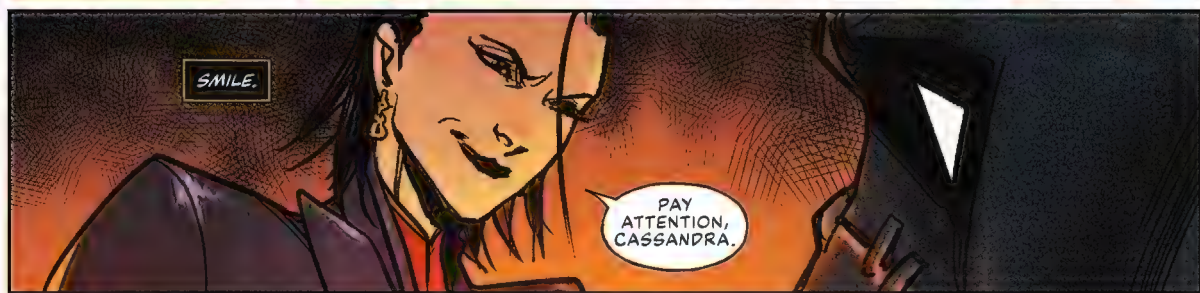


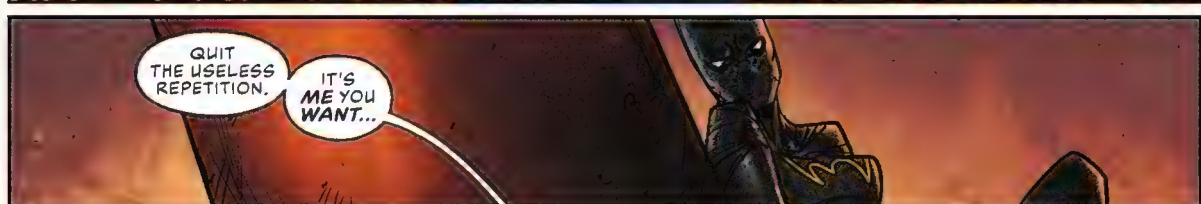
"I GAVE YOU THIS
LIFE, AND ONLY I
MAY TAKE IT..."





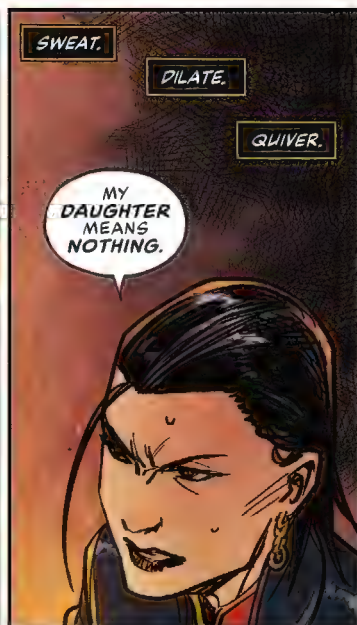








...SO HAVE ME.

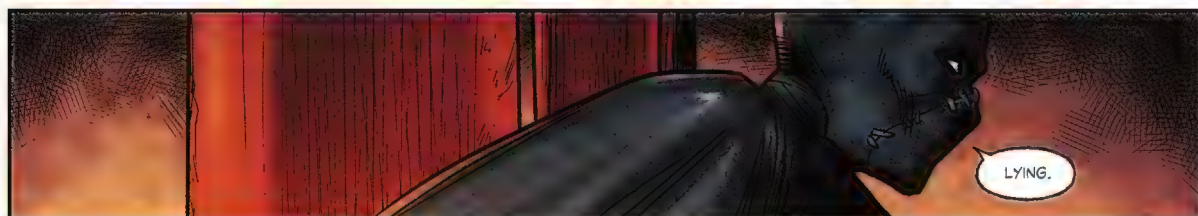


SWEAT.

DILATE.

QUIVER.

MY DAUGHTER MEANS NOTHING.



LYING.



HER NAME IS LADY SHIVA.

LIAR.
KILLER.
TERRORIST.
VILLAIN.

TEST YOUR LUCK.

SHE HAS DONE UNSPEAKABLE THINGS TO PEOPLE. TO ME.

SHE HAS AWOKEN A THREAT I BARELY UNDERSTAND.



BUT TONIGHT, THERE WILL BE NO MORE KILLING.

BECAUSE I AM
CASSANDRA CAIN.

WEAPON. ORPHAN.
BATGIRL. HERO.

AND TONIGHT, I
AM A DAUGHTER.

TONIGHT, THIS IS
MY MOTHER.

NO
LUCK.

ONLY
US.





*Jorge Jiménez
 2024*

MY NAME IS
CASSANDRA
CAIN...

...AND I AM
NO ORACLE.

I DO NOT TELL
THE FUTURE.

I KNOW THE
PAST. I SEE
THE NOW.

FACES.
MOVEMENTS.
PATTERNS.

NERVES.
INTENTIONS.
MISTAKES.

MY SIGHT IS
MY PROPHECY,
AND MY FISTS
ARE MY MEDIUM.

I SIMPLY READ
THE CARDS LAID
OUT BEFORE ME...





...AND I PLAY
MY HAND.

I AM
BATGIRL.

I WRITE THE
FORTUNES OF
MY ENEMIES.

NO MATTER
THE HAND I
WAS DEALT.

I MAKE
MY FUTURE.

AND I
ALWAYS
WILL.







I, TOO,
FIND...

...I, TOO,
SAVE.

YES. I DO
WHAT MUST BE
DONE FOR MY
PEOPLE.

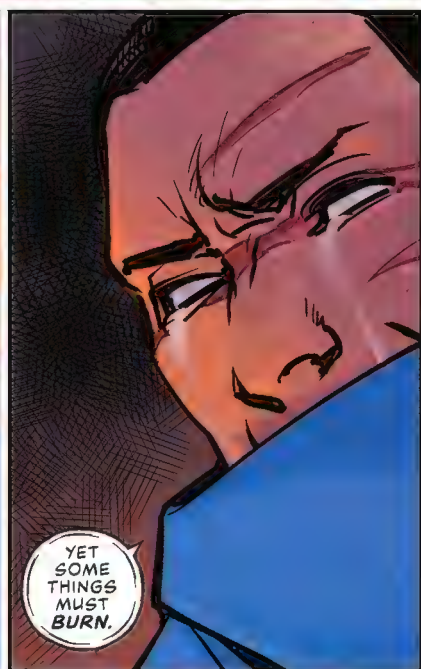


Shining

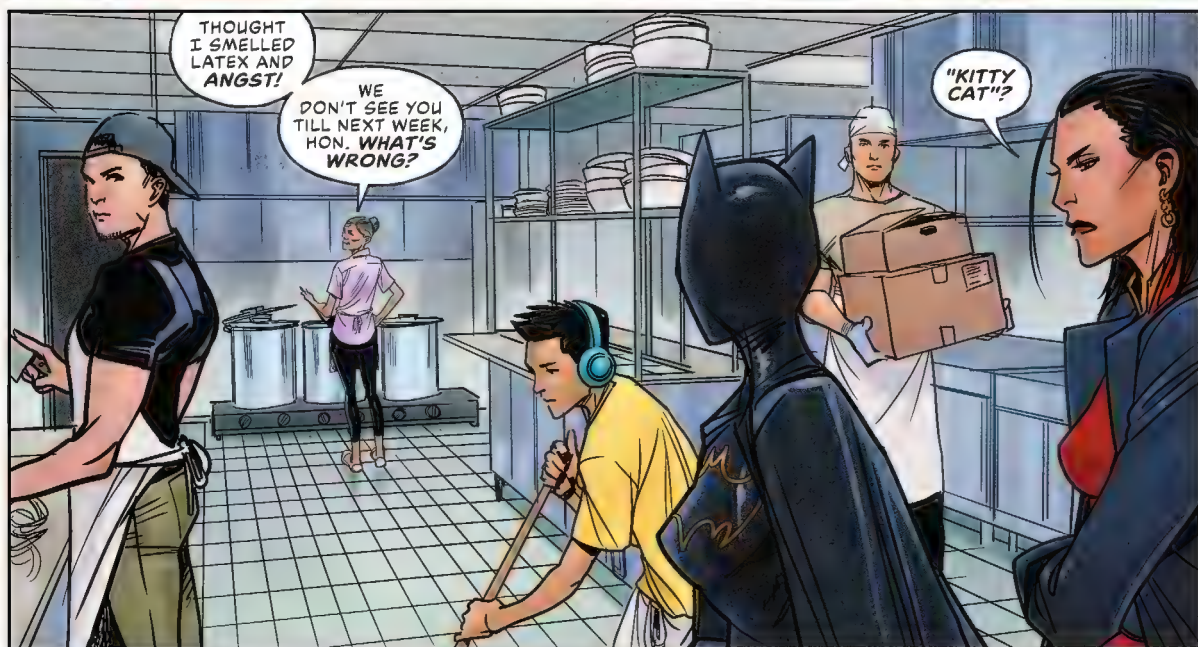


YOUR
SACRIFICE
WILL NOT
GO...

...UNSEEN.

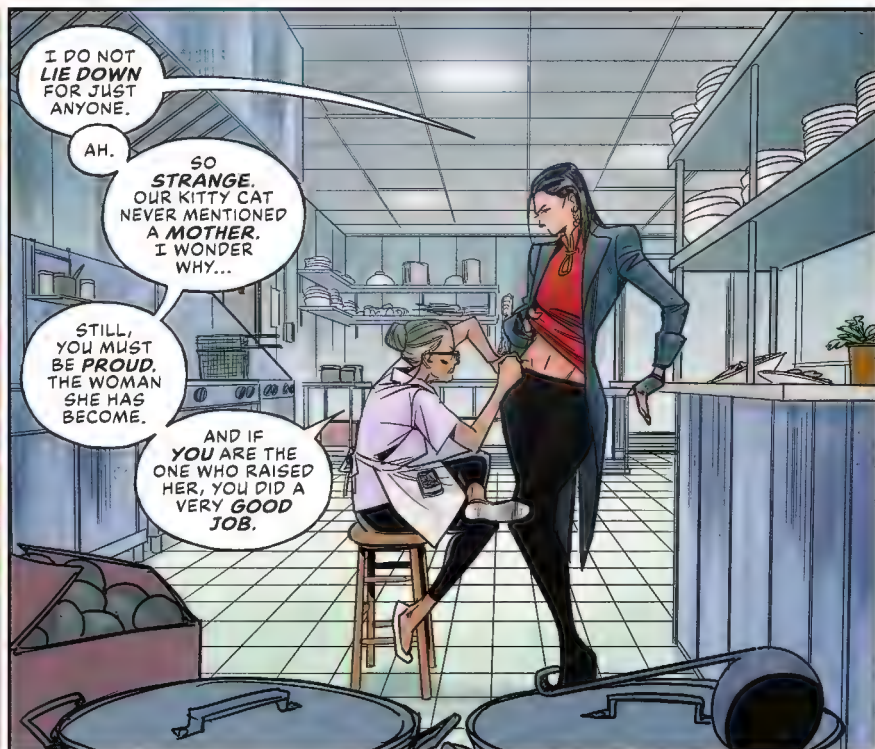


YET
SOME
THINGS
MUST
BURN.





YOU KNOW, THIS WOULD BE **MUCH EASIER** IF YOU'D LIE DOWN.



I DO NOT **LIE DOWN** FOR JUST ANYONE.

AH.

SO **STRANGE**. OUR KITTY CAT NEVER MENTIONED A **MOTHER**. I WONDER WHY...

STILL, YOU MUST BE **PROUD**. THE WOMAN SHE HAS BECOME.

AND IF YOU ARE THE ONE WHO RAISED HER, YOU DID A **VERY GOOD JOB**.



...
TELL ME, HOW DID YOU COME TO KNOW MY DAUGHTER?

HAH! I DON'T KNOW WHEN IT FIRST BEGAN. ONE DAY YOUR LITTLE GIRL SHOWED UP AT OUR DOOR JUST LIKE A **STRAY CAT**...

QUIET, NEVER SAYING MUCH, BUT SHE LIKED MY **FOOD** SO KEPT COMING BACK!



SHE REMINDS ME OF MYSELF AT THAT AGE.

ALWAYS FIGHTING, EVEN JUST FOR A BOWL OF **SOUP**.



SHE ASKED ME TO TEACH HER MY MARTIAL ART OF **VOVINAM**.

SUCH INTEREST AND NOT EVEN **VIETNAMESE!**

SO, I DID, AND IN RETURN SHE TRAINS MY GRANDSONS IN HER **MANY ARTS**.

YOU SEE, MY BOYS LOST THEIR PARENTS QUITE YOUNG, HM.

THEY HAVE **LEARNED MUCH** UNDER HER.



THIS IS WHAT WE DO. THIS IS HOW WE GET BY IN THIS CITY, THIS UNCERTAIN **WORLD**.

SO, YES, YOU MUST BE **PROUD**.



AND YET, I GO UNMENTIONED.

VERY WELL. I ADMIT YOUR HEALING SKILLS ARE EFFICIENT--

WAR NURSE. LOTS OF PRACTICE.

--BUT IT IS TIME WE TOOK OUR LEAVE, BA BAO.

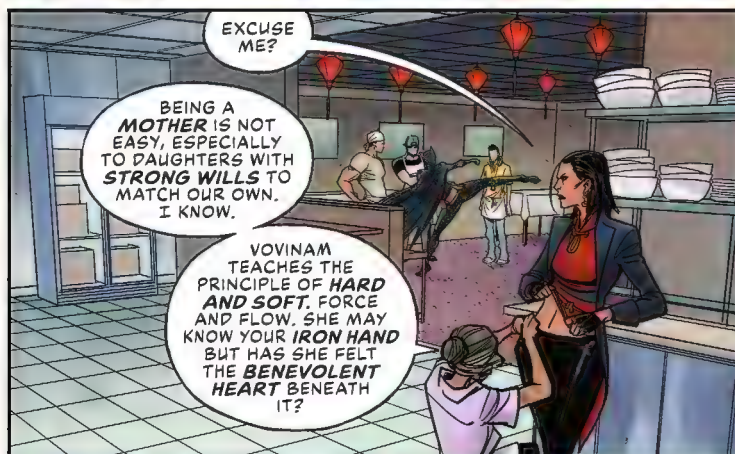


YOUR DAUGHTER IS A PRIVATE GIRL. WE KNOW WHAT SHE DOES FOR OUR CITY, AND I NEVER PRY. BUT THIS WOUND...SHE'S IN DANGER?

YES. SHE IS PROVING DIFFICULT, BUT SHE **WILL** LISTEN. I DO THIS FOR HER **OWN** GOOD.

AND HOW IS THAT GOING FOR YOU, HM?

LIKE PULLING TEETH FROM A DONKEY?



EXCUSE ME?

BEING A MOTHER IS NOT EASY, ESPECIALLY TO DAUGHTERS WITH **STRONG WILLS** TO MATCH OUR OWN. I KNOW.

VOVINAM TEACHES THE PRINCIPLE OF **HARD AND SOFT**. FORCE AND FLOW. SHE MAY KNOW YOUR **IRON HAND** BUT HAS SHE FELT THE **BENEVOLENT HEART** BENEATH IT?



PERHAPS YOU GO UNMENTIONED, SANDRA, BECAUSE THERE IS PAIN THERE.

A FOE SHE WILL NOT FIGHT.

AS A MOTHER, I REMIND YOU THAT WE ARE OUR DAUGHTERS' **FIRST TEACHERS**. YOU WISH HER TO BEND? **YOU** BEND FIRST. LISTEN. SPEAK.



FORCE...



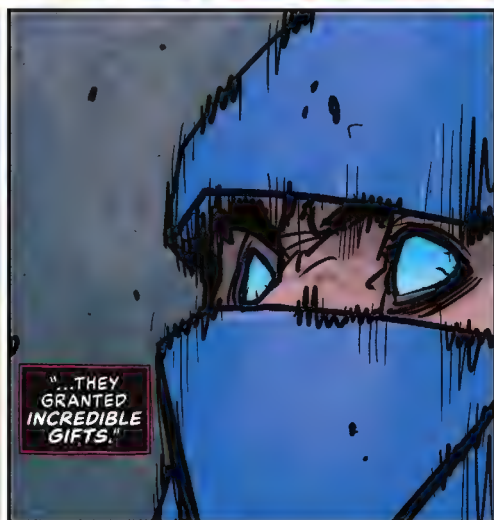
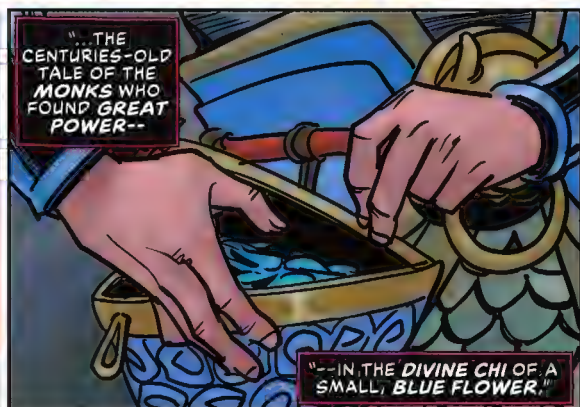
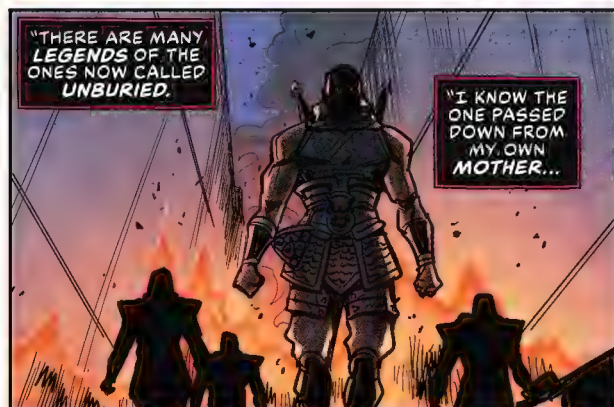
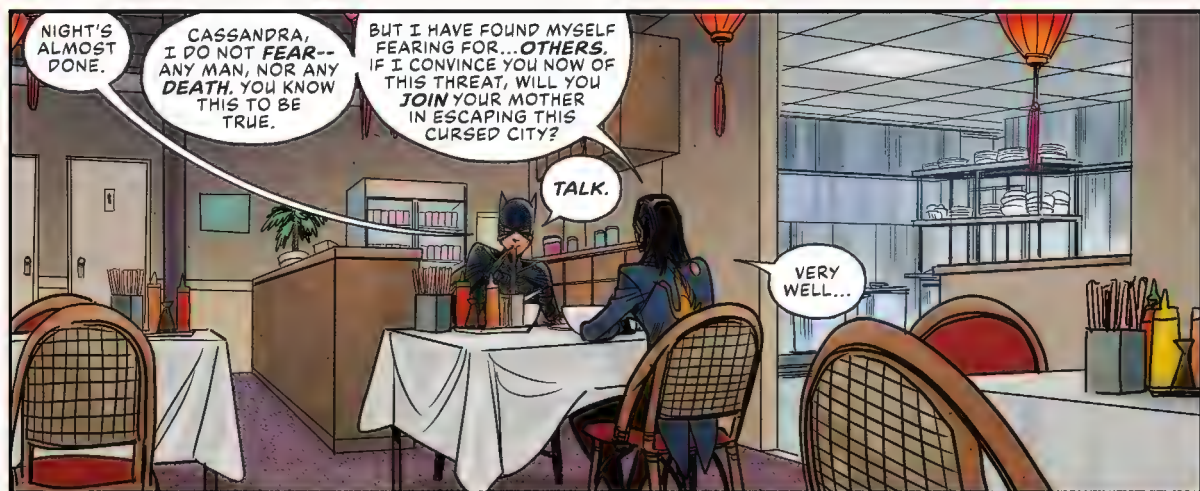
...AND FLOW.

ONLY THEN--



--CAN YOU HEAL.

SNIP





"MYSTICAL
POWERS OF
HEALING..."

"...STRENGTH..."

"...AND SIGHT,
AMONG OTHERS."



"WHEN
THE WORLD
LEARNED OF
THIS FLOWER
AND ITS HOLY
GIFTS..."

"...THE WORLD
SOUGHT IT OUT FOR
THEMSELVES."



BUT
THE MONKS
RESISTED
THE WORLD'S
GREED.

THEY DARED
NOT SHARE
THIS **BOON**, FOR
THEY BELIEVED
IT WAS **BORN** OF
THEIR KIN'S VERY
LIFE FORCE...
THEIR **CHI**.



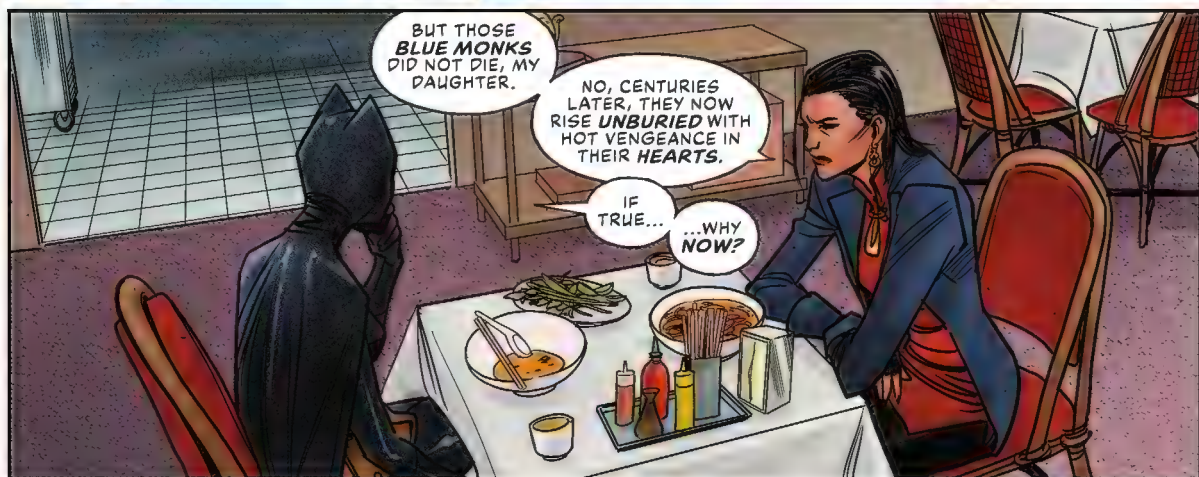
"MORE WAR
FOLLOWED."

"MORE **BLOOD** FLOWED
AND MORE **FLOWERS**
BLOOMED."



"UNTIL
THE EARTH ITSELF
QUAKED AGAINST
THE **BATTLES**--"

"--AND **SWALLOWED**
THE MONKS AND
THEIR **BLUE FLOWERS**
WHOLE...**BURIED**."



BUT THOSE
BLUE MONKS
DID NOT DIE, MY
DAUGHTER.

NO, CENTURIES
LATER, THEY NOW
RISE **UNBURIED** WITH
HOT VENGEANCE IN
THEIR **HEARTS**.

IF
TRUE...

...WHY
NOW?



WHO...?

EYES
SEARCHING.
BLIND?

WHO IS HE?

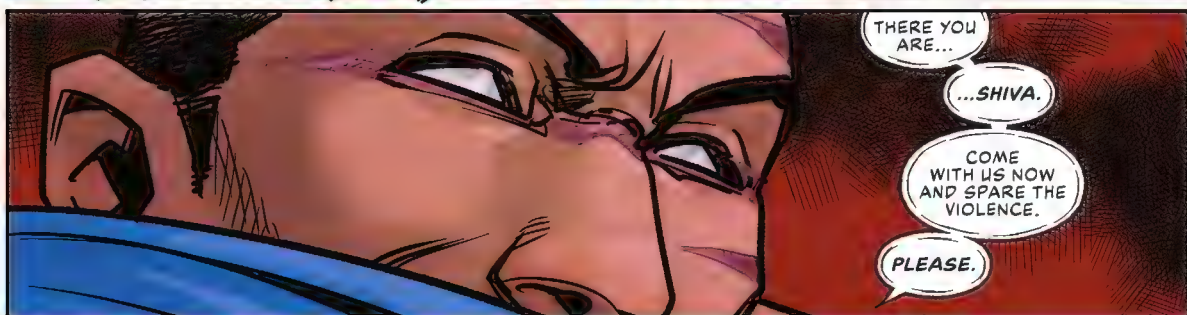


KALDEN THE
UNSEEN.

FEAR.

A SECOND,
THEN GONE...

...MY
MOTHER
SHOWED
FEAR.



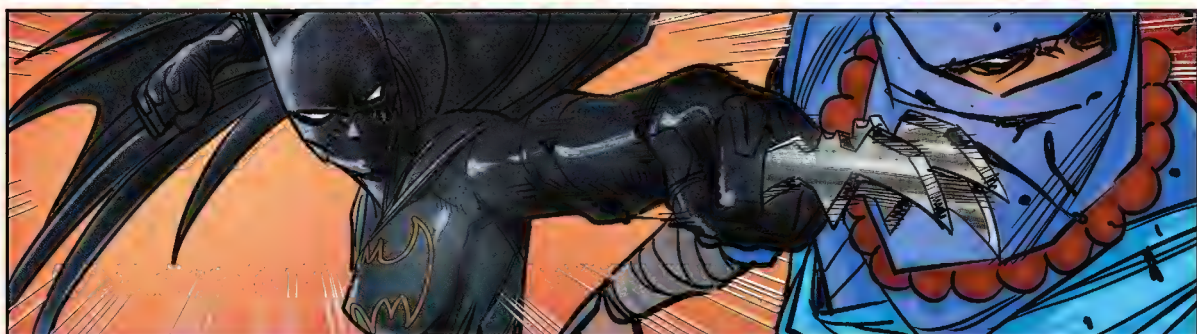
THERE YOU
ARE...

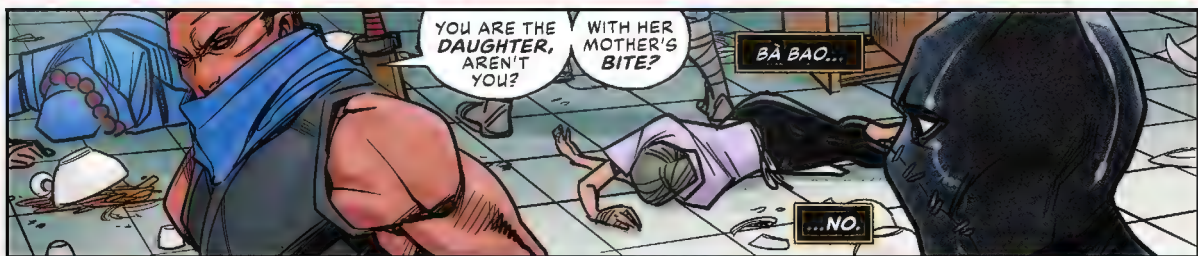
...SHIVA.

COME
WITH US NOW
AND SPARE THE
VIOLENCE.

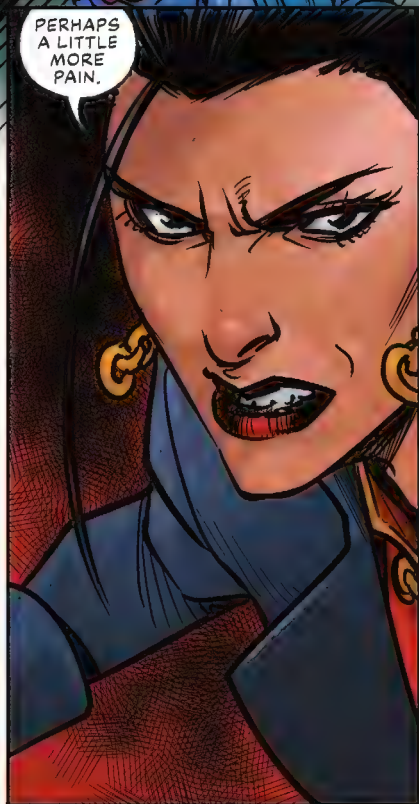
PLEASE.











PERHAPS
A LITTLE
MORE
PAIN.



ENOUGH.

PAIN.

WH-WHO--?

I CANNOT SEE...

HE
IS NAMED
KALDEN THE
UNSEEN.

THE ONE
YOU SHOULD
REALLY WORRY
ABOUT.

...HELP.



BLURRY. PANIC.
HEARTBEAT.

C-CAN'T
LEAVE...

YOU
NEARLY
DIED.

WHAT
GOOD ARE
YOU?



NO--
--CAN'T...
ABANDON...



PAIN.

HELP.



PLEASE, MY
DAUGHTER...

...LET
ME HELP
YOU.



CAN'T FOCUS.
WHAT'S--

HURRY!

BREATHE.



BÀ BAO...

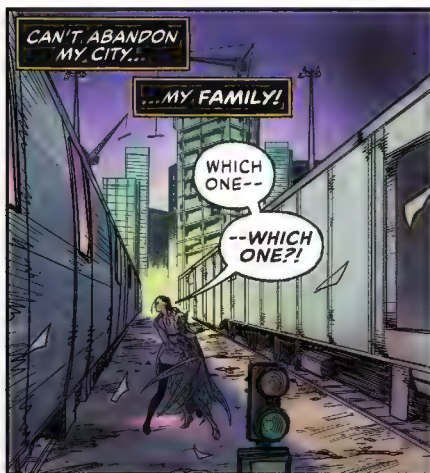


I CAN'T--

THE
TRAIN.

THIS
WAY!

WHERE
ARE WE--



CAN'T ABANDON
MY CITY...

...MY FAMILY!

WHICH
ONE--

--WHICH
ONE?!



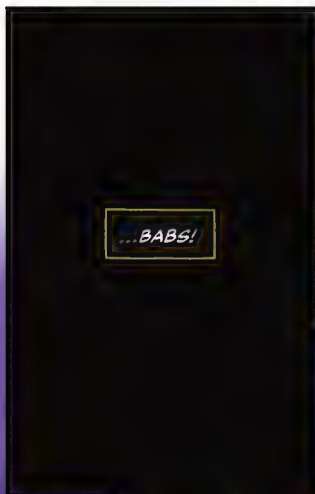
STEPH--

BREATHE.

--BRUCE.



PAIN.



...BABS!



WHAT HAVE
I DONE?

I CAN'T--

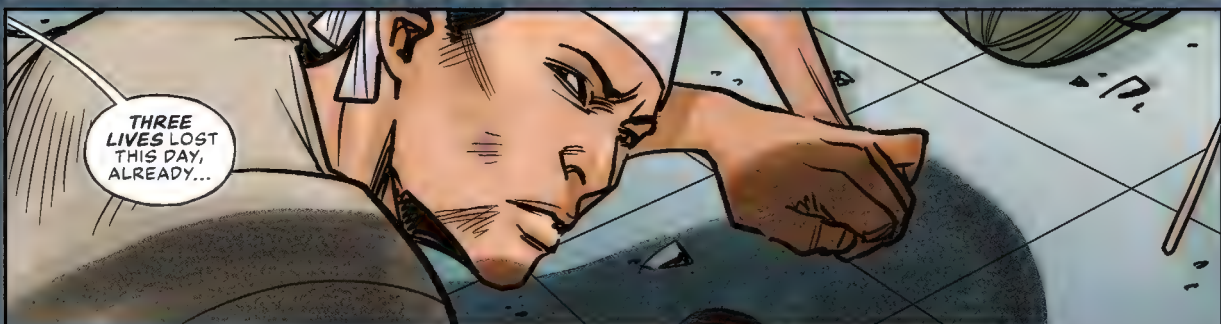
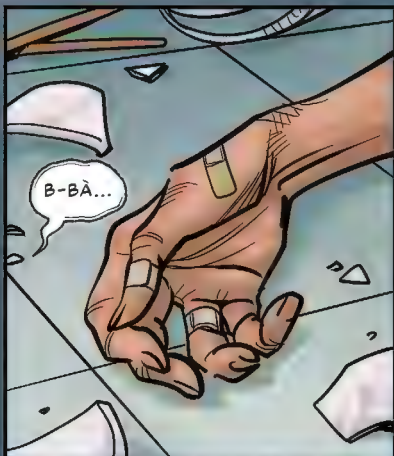
BREATHE.



I AM NO
ORACLE.

I CAN'T READ
THE CARDS...

...WHAT WILL
HAPPEN NEXT?



DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

BATGIRL

MOTHER

PART 2 OF 6

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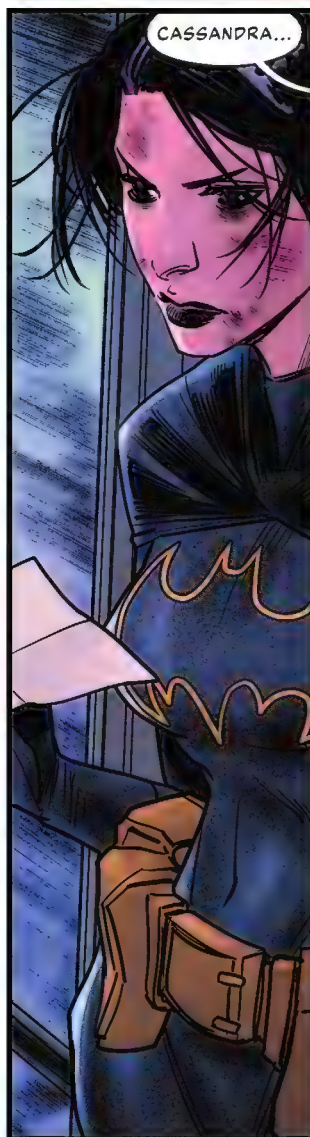
I AM NOT, MY MOTHER.



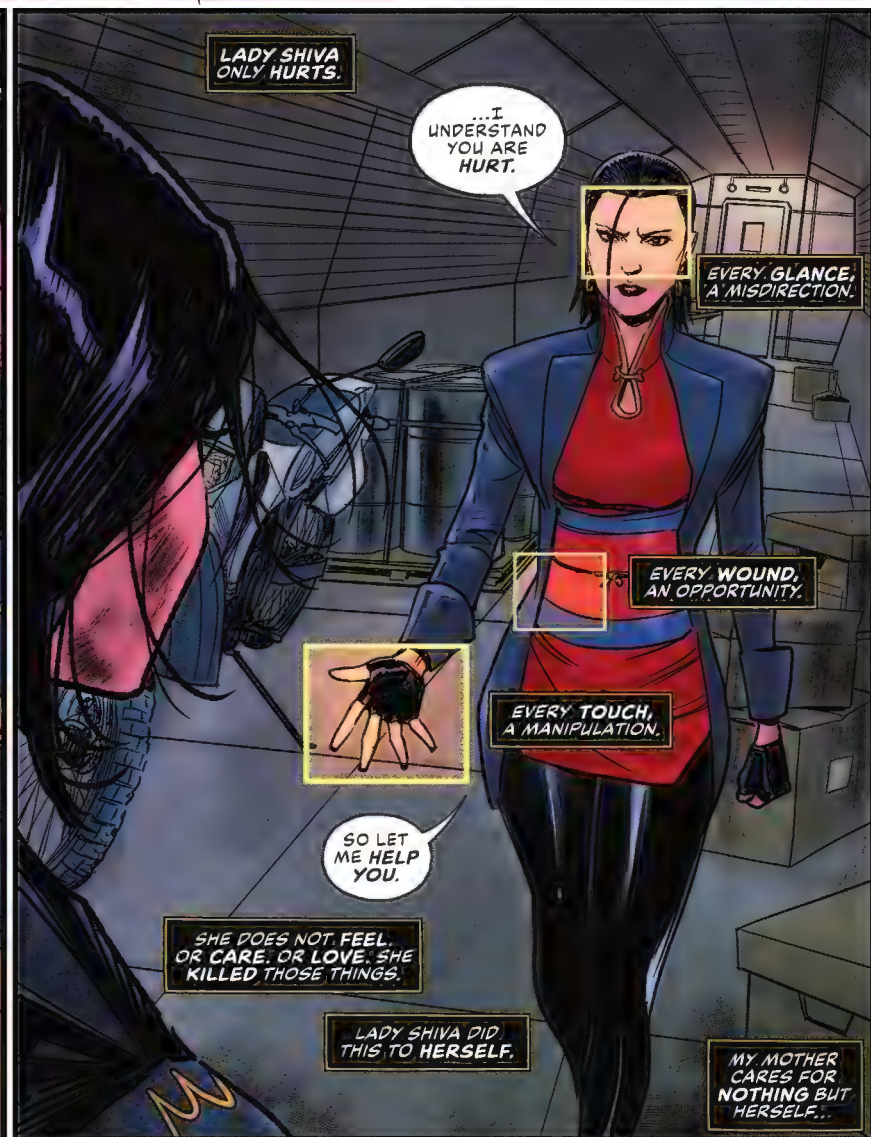
MY MOTHER
IS CRUEL.

SHE LIES.
SHE TOYS.

SHE PROVOKES.



CASSANDRA...



LADY SHIVA
ONLY HURTS.

...I
UNDERSTAND
YOU ARE
HURT.

EVERY GLANCE,
A MISDIRECTION.

EVERY WOUND,
AN OPPORTUNITY.

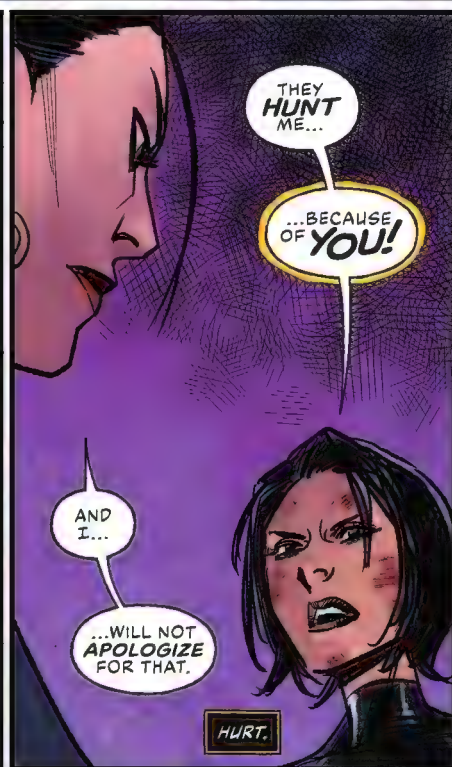
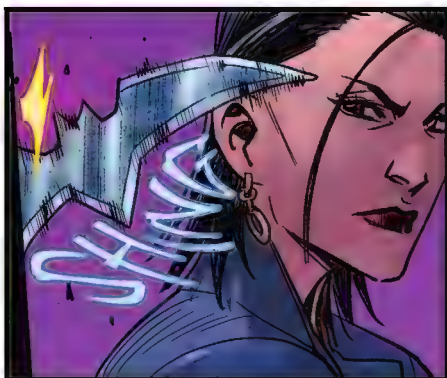
EVERY TOUCH,
A MANIPULATION.

SO LET
ME HELP
YOU.

SHE DOES NOT FEEL.
OR CARE. OR LOVE. SHE
KILLED THOSE THINGS.

LADY SHIVA DID
THIS TO HERSELF.

MY MOTHER
CARES FOR
NOTHING BUT
HERSELF...





HOLD YOUR **DISDAIN** FOR REALITY, DAUGHTER.

CHERISH IT LIKE WATER IN YOUR HANDS, BUT DO NOT **DENY** IT.

THE **UNBURIED** CAME TO GOTHAM TO KILL YOU, WHETHER I WAS PRESENT OR NOT.

WHICH PROVED A **WORTHY** EFFORT AS **KALDEN** NEARLY FINISHED YOU WITH A MERE **FIVE** MOVEMENTS.



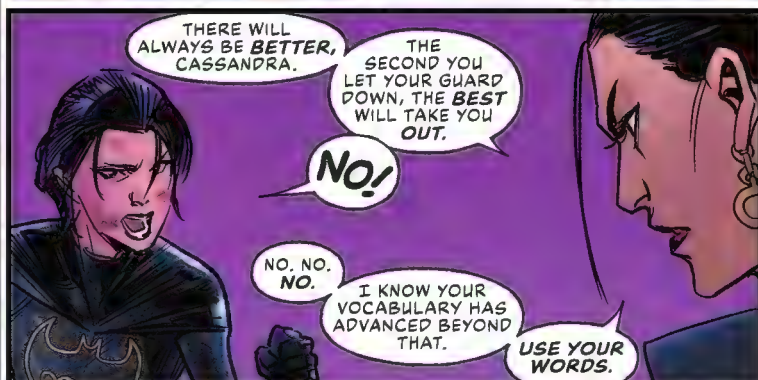
NO.

NO.

OH? IS THAT IT?

FAIL IN **COMBAT** THEN BLAME YOUR MOTHER FOR A **WOUNDED** EGO, IS IT?

DON'T TELL ME THE **BATGIRL** STARTED BELIEVING THE DELUDED **AFFIRMATIONS** THAT SHE'S **UNBEATABLE**?



THERE WILL ALWAYS BE **BETTER**, CASSANDRA.

THE SECOND YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN, THE **BEST** WILL TAKE YOU **OUT**.

No!

NO. NO. **NO.**

I KNOW YOUR VOCABULARY HAS ADVANCED BEYOND THAT.

USE YOUR **WORDS**.



YOU BLAME **YOURSELF** AS MUCH AS ME.

YOU ARE MY DAUGHTER. I CAN READ IT IN YOUR **TWITCHY LEFT THUMB**.

I AM **NOT** YOU.

GO ON, **DENY** THE VERY **ROOTS** YOU STAND UPON AND SEE HOW FAST YOU **FALL**.



THIS IS WHO **I AM!**

HAH. YES, A PORTRAIT OF A GIRL **HALF-BURIED**.

EVEN HERE I READ THOUGHTS, FEELINGS, **ACTIONS** UNSAID...



THEY TAUGHT YOU TO SPEAK **THEIR** LANGUAGE YET NEVER BOTHERED TO LEARN **YOURS**.

A TOUCH. A **GLANCE**.

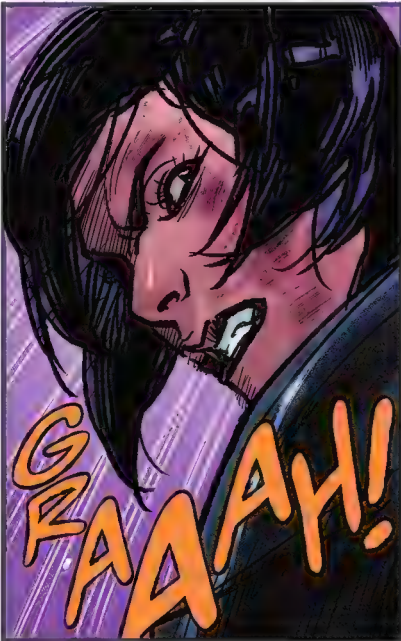
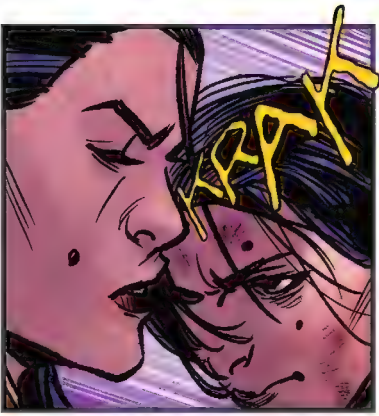
THE LANGUAGE ONLY A **MOTHER** KNOWS.



TRULY, I AM IMPRESSED, CASSANDRA. YOU'VE **FOOLED** THEM ALL.

YOU **ALMOST** LOOK LIKE YOU **BELONG**.

HURT.





STAND DOWN,
BATGIRL.

WHAT...?

WHO?



THREAT?

INJURED.

FEAR...
OF ME?

THESE
ARE OUR
ALLIES...

...AND THE
INNOCENTS THEY
PROTECT.



MEET THE ORDER OF SHIVA,
OR WHAT REMAINS OF ITS
GOTHAM CHAPTER.

THOSE AT
THE TEMPLE
WERE MEANT
TO LEAD US
HERE.

THE
UNBURIED
HAD OTHER
IDEAS.

ORDER,
I WOULD
LIKE YOU TO
MEET THE
"BATGIRL"...

...MY
DAUGHTER.





HIGH PRIEST...?

JAYESH, MY LADY SHIVA.

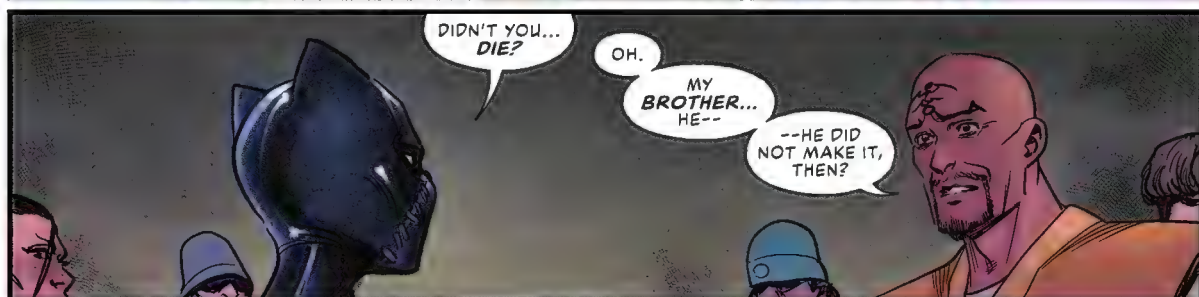
IN YOUR ETERNAL SERVICE AND DEBT.

AH, BRING MY DAUGHTER TO YOUR HEALERS.

SHE REFUSES MY HAND--PERHAPS SHE WILL ACCEPT THEIRS.



IT WOULD BE MY HONOR.



DIDN'T YOU... DIE?

OH.

MY BROTHER... HE--

--HE DID NOT MAKE IT, THEN?



IT WAS A RIGHTEOUS DEATH, HIGH PRIEST JAYESH.

FOUGHT HARD AND WON.

YOUR BROTHER SAVED MY DAUGHTER'S LIFE.

GLANCE.

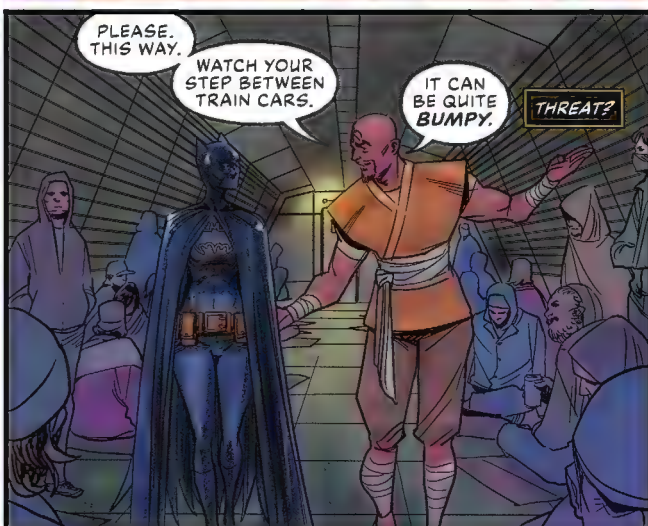
TOUCH.

CARE?



THEN I AM EVEN MORE HONORED TO HAVE MET YOU, DAUGHTER OF SHIVA.

TRUTH.

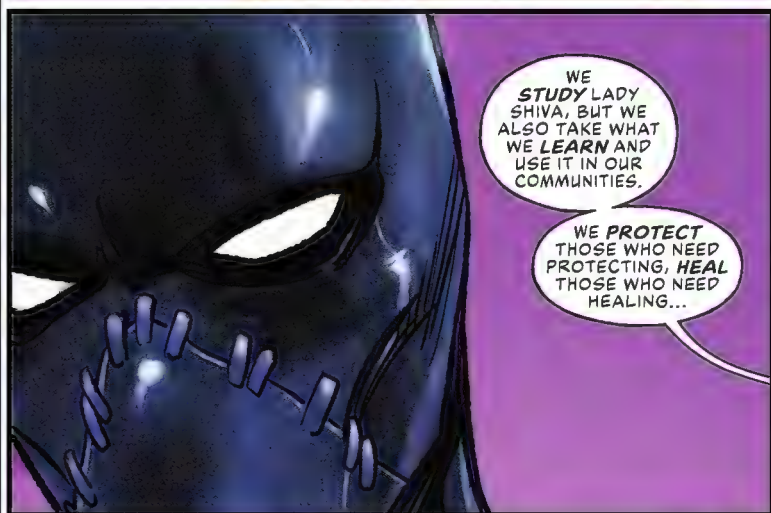


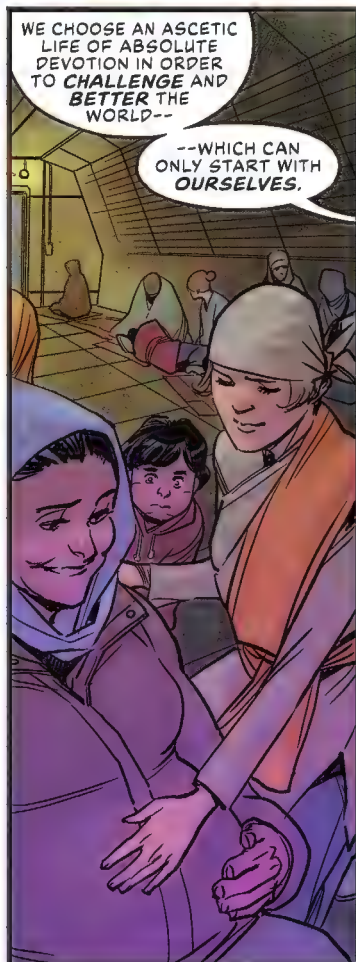
PLEASE. THIS WAY.

WATCH YOUR STEP BETWEEN TRAIN CARS.

IT CAN BE QUITE BUMPY.

THREAT?









AND YOU SHOULD BE PROUD, HM?

ALL OF THIS.

ALL THAT YOU SEE AND MUCH THAT YOU DO NOT...

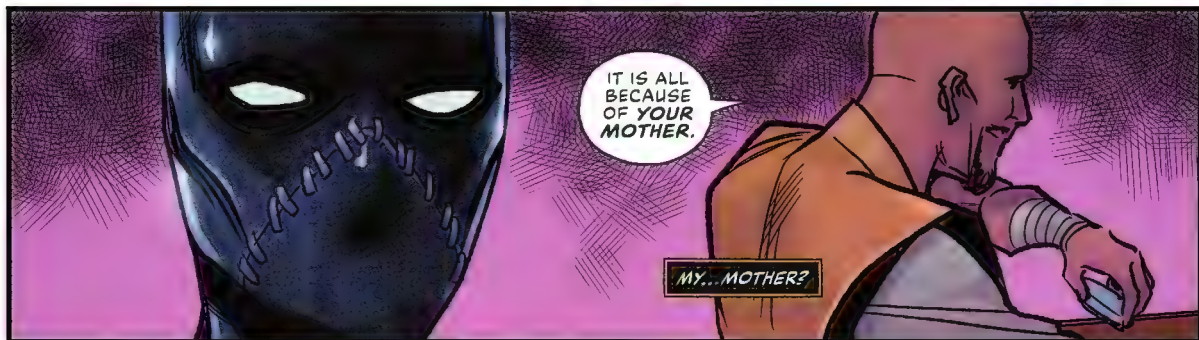


...IT IS ALL BECAUSE OF THE LADY SHIVA.

TOUCH.

GLANCE.

CARE.



IT IS ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR MOTHER.

MY... MOTHER?



HERE. DRINK.

TO NUMB THE HURT AND SPEED THE HEALING, IF YOU SO WISH.

THANK YOU, JAYESH.

IT'S WHAT I DO.



HEY, UH...



...RESTROOM
IN HERE
OR--?

WHAT?

WHO?



THREAT.



NO.



DAUGHTER,
NO--!

LEAGUE OF
SHADOWS--

--WATCH
OUT!



I AM NOT MY MOTHER.

MY MOTHER IS CRUEL.
SHE LIES. SHE TOYS.
SHE PROVOKES.

LADY SHIVA
ONLY HURTS.

SHE DOES NOT FEEL.
SHE DOES NOT CARE.

SHE CANNOT LOVE. SHE
KILLED THOSE THINGS...

DAUGHTER!

...TO BECOME MORE.
TO BECOME LESS.

I TOLD
YOU WE WERE
NOT ALONE IN
THIS WAR.

THE
UNBURIED
TARGET US
ALL!

WE
WILL NOT
SURVIVE AT
ODDS.

WE MUST
CAST ASIDE
DIFFERENCES
AND WORK
TOGETHER!

LADY SHIVA
CARES FOR
NOTHING BUT
HERSELF.

MY MOTHER
IS EVERYTHING
I AM NOT.



I AM BARBARA'S
WILL--

--AND
STEPHANIE'S
HEART.

I AM TIM'S WIT.
JASON'S GRIT.
DAMIAN'S GUTS!

STOP
THIS AT
ONCE!

YOU ARE
BEING SELFISH.
RECKLESS!

THE MORE
YOU WOUND
THEM, THE MORE
YOU WOUND US
ALL IN THIS
CAUSE!

QUIT
FIGHTING
AND
LISTEN
TO ME!

I AM DUKE'S HOPE
AND DICK'S FAITH.

I AM ALFRED'S CARE.

QUIT
RESISTING
ME AND--

I AM
BRUCE'S
PRIDE!



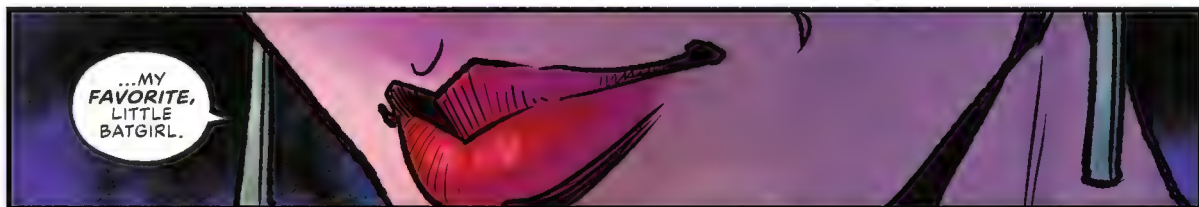


I AM BATGIRL.

I AM ALL OF THAT
AND SO MUCH MORE.



THERE
SHE IS...



...MY
FAVORITE,
LITTLE
BATGIRL..

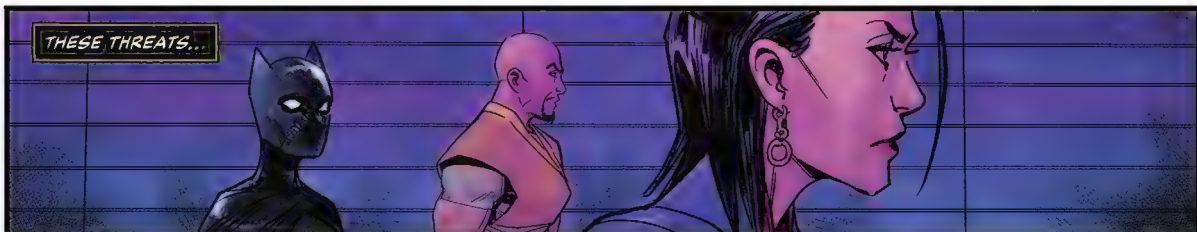


QUITE AN
ENTRANCE.
BRAVO!

THOUGH
I DO HATE,
HATE, HATE
BEING
UPSTAGED.



I MEAN,
ALL I HAD
TO DO
WAS...







I HAVE LEARNED
MUCH FROM MY
FATHER.

LIKE ME, BATMAN
DOES NOT WASTE
WORDS.

READ THE ROOM.

PLAN FOR THE WORST-
CASE SCENARIO.

BEAT THE ODDS.

HIGH PRIEST,
JAYESH.
FRIEND?

ANGEL BREAKER. ENEMY.

NYSSA'AL GHUL.
ENEMY...AND
ALIVE?

I HAVE
TO ADMIT,
BATGIRL, IT
FEELS SO
CORRECT TO
SEE YOU
AGAIN.

CONSIDERING
IT WAS YOU
WHO SUPPOSEDLY
KILLED ME ALL
THOSE YEARS
AGO.*

LADY SHIVA.
MOTHER.

MY ODDS HAVE
NEVER BEEN WORSE.

BUT I WILL
NOT FAIL YOU,
FATHER.

*WAY BACK IN
ROBIN #148.
--JESS

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

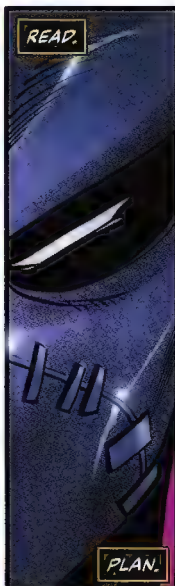
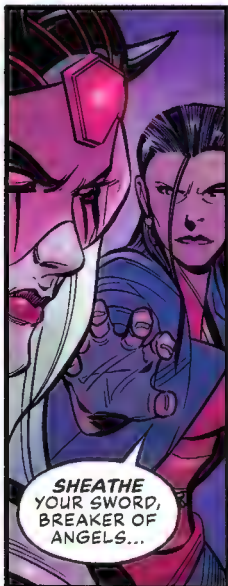
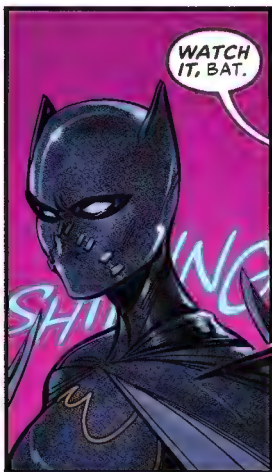
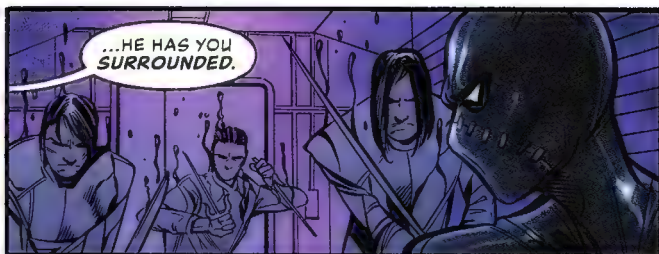
BATGIRL

MOTHER PART 4 OF 6

TATE BROMBAL WRITER TAKESHI MIYAZAWA ARTIST
WAYNE FAUCHER INKS P. 1-10 MIKE SPICER COLORS

TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS DAVID TALASKI COVER SOZOMAIRA VARIANT COVER JESSICA BERBEY EDITOR ROB LEVIN GROUP EDITOR





BEAT THE
ODDS.





TOUCH.



STARE.

CLENCH.

TENSE.

"NOT YET."



LOOK AT YOU ALL.

TO THINK, ENEMIES AT OUR HEELS YET WE COMPLETE THEIR WORK FOR THEM!

I MAY BE THE LOWEST OF YOU, BUT I RETAIN MY COMMON SENSE.

LOWER YOUR WEAPONS AT ONCE!



WE CANNOT DEFEAT THIS THREAT ALONE. WE MUST SET THIS ALL ASIDE AND WORK TOGETHER.

PLEASE, LITTLE BAT.

YOU HAVE SEEN THE WORKS OUR ORDER DOES.

ALL OF THAT CANNOT BE LOST, AND WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN MUSTER.



FORGET THEM.

WILL YOU LEAVE OR WILL YOU JOIN ME?

WHAT WOULD...

...BATMAN DO?



NORMALLY PRIESTS DISTURB ME, BUT THIS ONE SPEAKS TRUTH.

THE UNBURIED ARE AN EXISTENTIAL THREAT TO US ALL.

ALREADY, THEY'VE TARGETED EACH OF US ACROSS THE GLOBE.

ATTACKED OUR STRONGHOLDS.

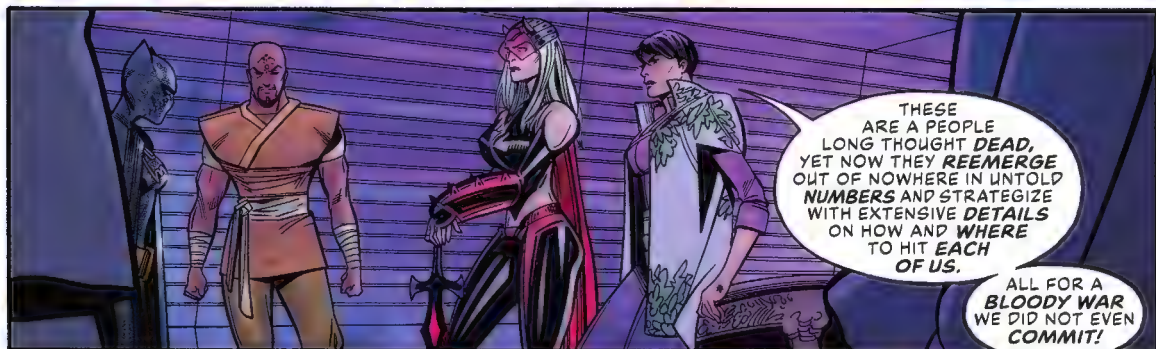
KILLED OUR PEOPLE.

FROM GOTHAM TO BEIJING.



WU LIN, THEY'VE FORCED YOUR BLOOD OUT OF THE SHADOWS AFTER DECADES OF PEACE IN EAST ASIA.

WILL YOU LET THAT STAND?



THESE ARE A PEOPLE LONG THOUGHT DEAD, YET NOW THEY REEMERGE OUT OF NOWHERE IN UNTOLD NUMBERS AND STRATEGIZE WITH EXTENSIVE DETAILS ON HOW AND WHERE TO HIT EACH OF US.

ALL FOR A BLOODY WAR WE DID NOT EVEN COMMIT!



FOR THE SINS OF ANCESTORS LONG PASSED!

TREMORS.



HOW PAST?

...

MY FATHER.

WHAT SINS?



RA'S AL GHUL KILLED A LEGION OF BLUE MONKS CENTURIES AGO.

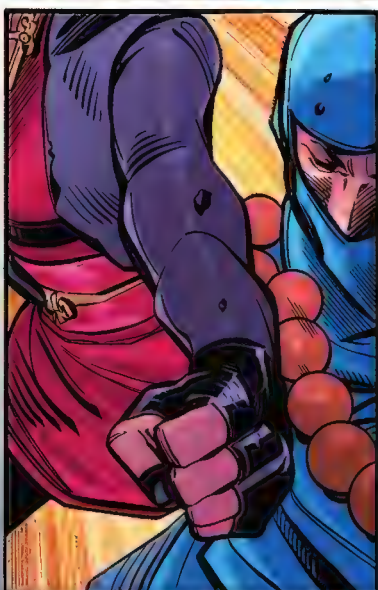
IT WAS FROM THEIR GRAVES THE BLUE POPPIES FIRST GREW.

HE STARTED THAT BLOODY WAR. BUT MY FATHER'S SINS ARE HIS ALONE, AND, IF IT IS NOT CLEAR, BATGIRL, I AM NOT MY FATHER.

THE LEAGUE OF SHADOWS IS NOW MINE, AND I KNOW THE GOOD I CAN DO WITHOUT THE WANTON BLOODSHED OF GENOCIDE.

I'VE SURVIVED TOO MANY OF THOSE.







HAH!



ENEMIES?



I FIND THESE
ENEMIES LACKING
IN FLAVOR AND
SUSTENANCE!



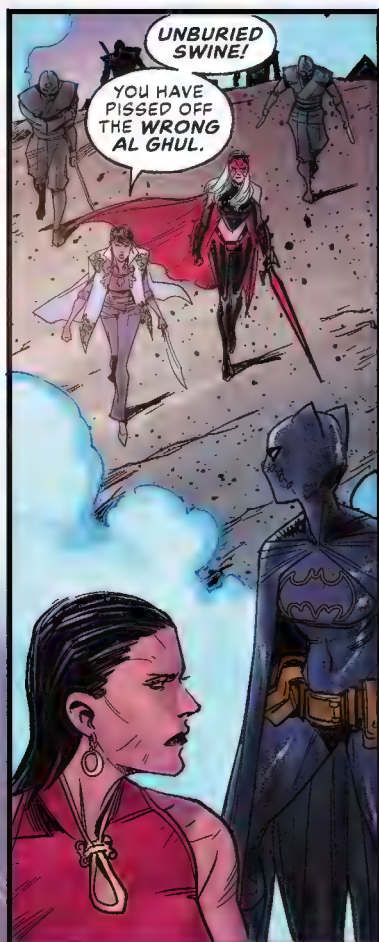
BRING
CHODAK
A REAL
FEAST.

CHODAK
THE UNBOWED
AND NERGUI THE
UNKNOWN.

I SHOULD
HAVE KNOWN KALDEN
WOULD SEND TWO MORE
OF THE UNBURIED'S
GRANDMASTERS
AFTER US.

snip
snip.

COME
TO SETTLE
OUR LAST
CONTEST?



UNBURIED SWINE!

YOU HAVE PISSED OFF THE WRONG AL GHUL.



HAH! THE SMALL WOMAN IS FUNNY!

al ghul.

al ghul.

we hate al ghul.



YOU DARE LAY HANDS UPON ME... BLOODMASTER WU LIN?

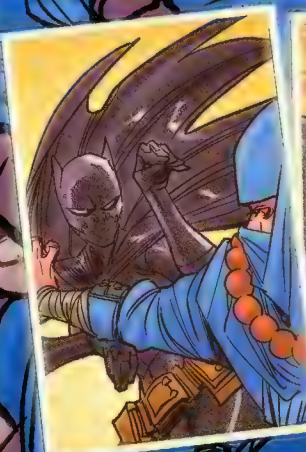
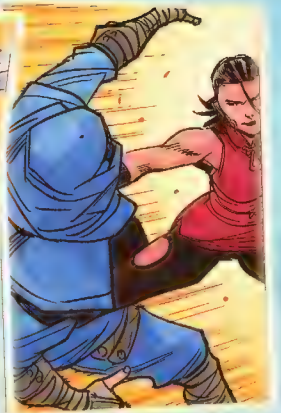
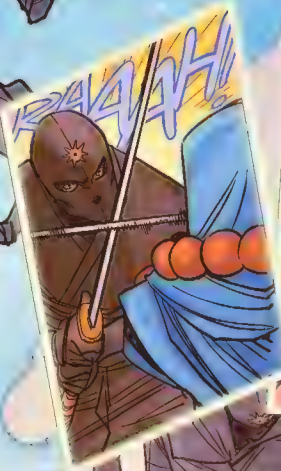
THE BLOOD OF WU DOES NOT FORGET, MONK.

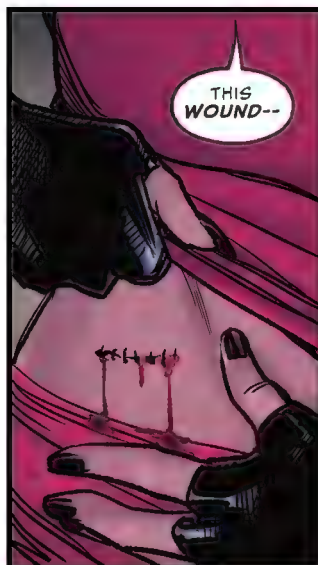
OUR VENGEANCE IS NOT CHEAP!



THEN SERVE ME YOUR VENGEANCE--

--AND LET US EAT!





THIS WOUND--



THIS DAMNED WOUND IS HOLDING ME BACK.

IT WILL NOT HEAL FAST ENOUGH.

...
...WOUND?

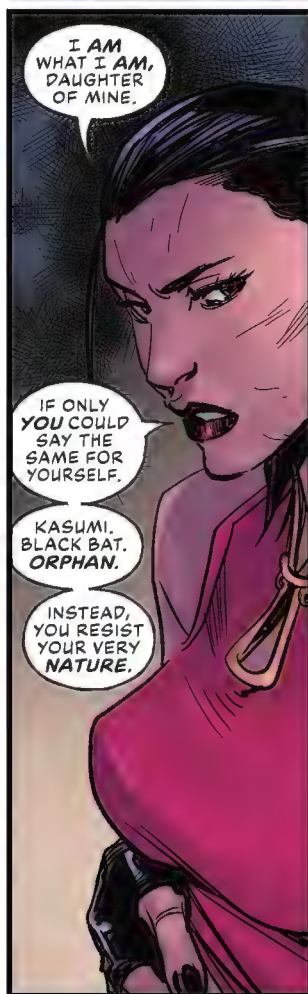


DEAD.

THEY ARE ALL DEAD!

EVERYWHERE YOU GO--

--DEATH!



I AM WHAT I AM, DAUGHTER OF MINE.

IF ONLY YOU COULD SAY THE SAME FOR YOURSELF.

KASUMI. BLACK BAT. ORPHAN.

INSTEAD, YOU RESIST YOUR VERY NATURE.



I RESIST... DEATH.

DEATH MAY HAVE BEEN YOUR FIRST TEACHER, CASSANDRA...

...AS IT WAS MINE...

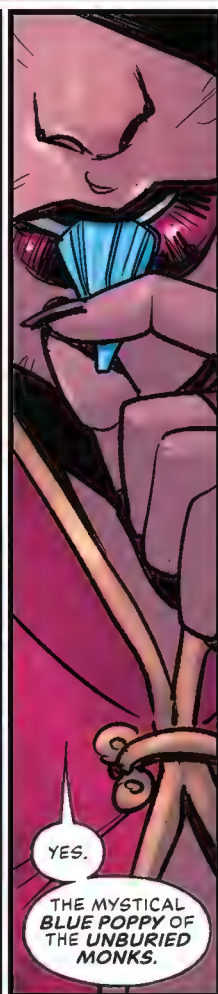
...BUT IT IS NOT YOUR NATURE.



EVEN NOW, YOU WASTE YOUR ENERGY, YOUR POWER AND CHI, ASPIRING TO BE SOMEBODY ELSE.

BUT WHO IS CASSANDRA?

IS THAT--?



YES.

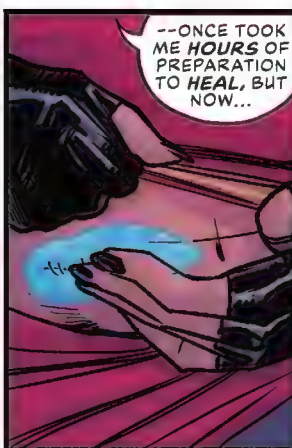
THE MYSTICAL BLUE POPPY OF THE UNBURIED MONKS.



ISN'T IT
BRILLIANT?



A
WOUND
LIKE
THIS--



--ONCE TOOK
ME HOURS OF
PREPARATION
TO HEAL, BUT
NOW...



...MERE
SECONDS.



WHERE DID
YOU--?!

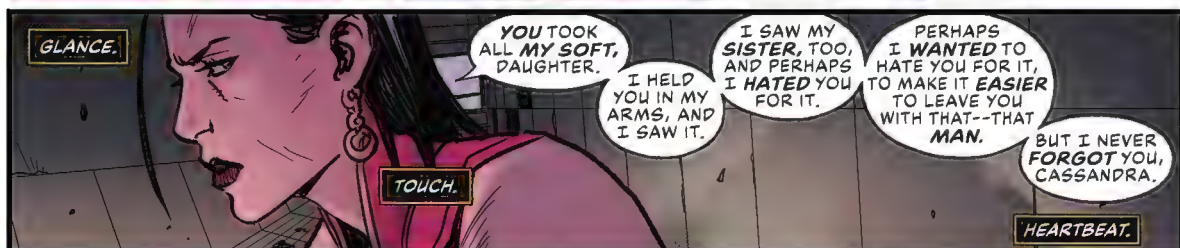
LISTEN
TO ME.

WE DO
NOT HAVE
MUCH
TIME.

I KNOW
WHAT I AM,
AND I KNOW
YOU HATE
IT.

BUT
THAT OLD WOMAN,
BA BAO, SHE SAID
THERE IS **SOFT** AND
THERE IS **HARD**.

WELL,
SOMEWHERE ALONG
THE WAY, I **LOST** MY
SOFT, AND I NOW REALIZE
IT WAS WHEN I HAD YOU.



GLANCE.

YOU TOOK
ALL MY **SOFT**,
DAUGHTER.

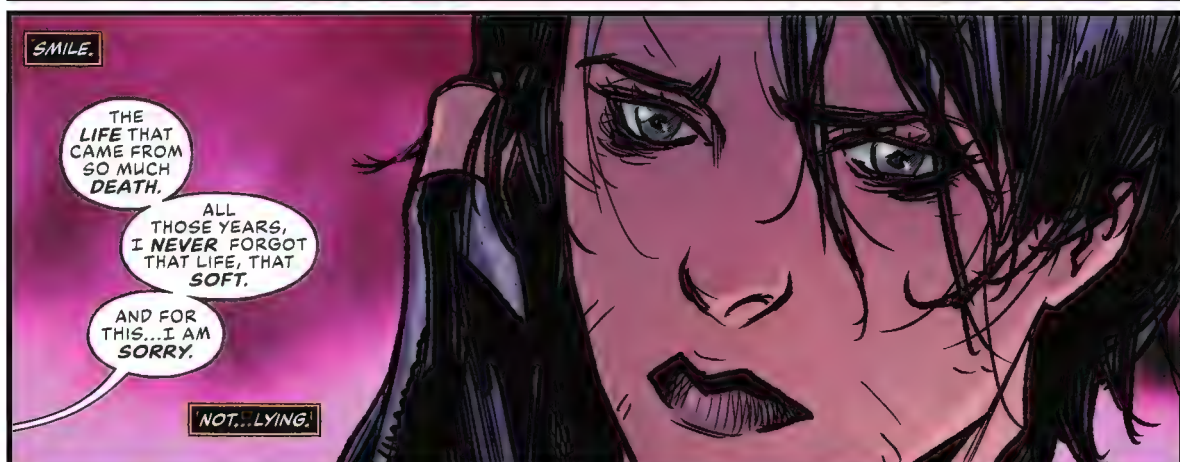
I HELD
YOU IN MY
ARMS, AND
I SAW IT.

I SAW MY
SISTER, TOO,
AND PERHAPS
I **HATED** YOU
FOR IT.

PERHAPS
I **WANTED**
TO HATE YOU FOR IT,
TO MAKE IT **EASIER**
TO LEAVE YOU
WITH THAT--THAT
MAN.

BUT I NEVER
FORGOT YOU,
CASSANDRA.

HEARTBEAT.



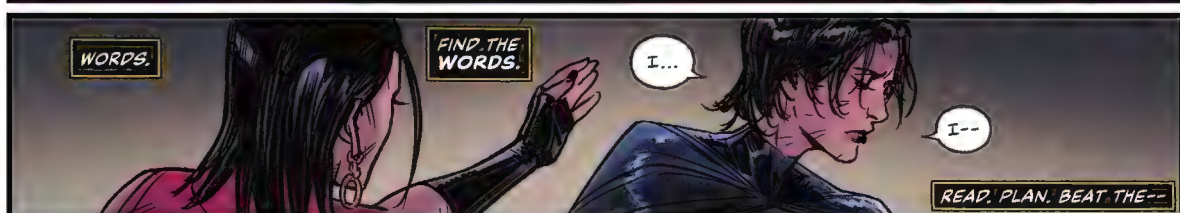
SMILE.

THE
LIFE THAT
CAME FROM
SO MUCH
DEATH.

ALL
THOSE YEARS,
I **NEVER** FORGOT
THAT LIFE, THAT
SOFT.

AND FOR
THIS...I AM
SORRY.

NOT...LYING.



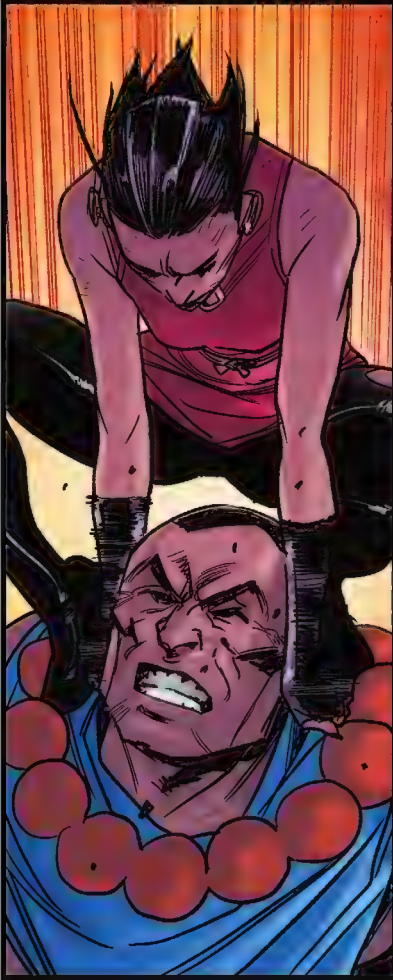
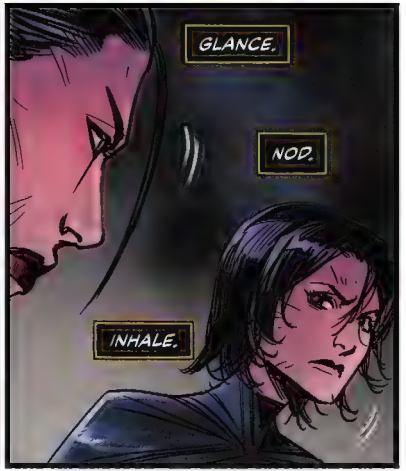
WORDS.

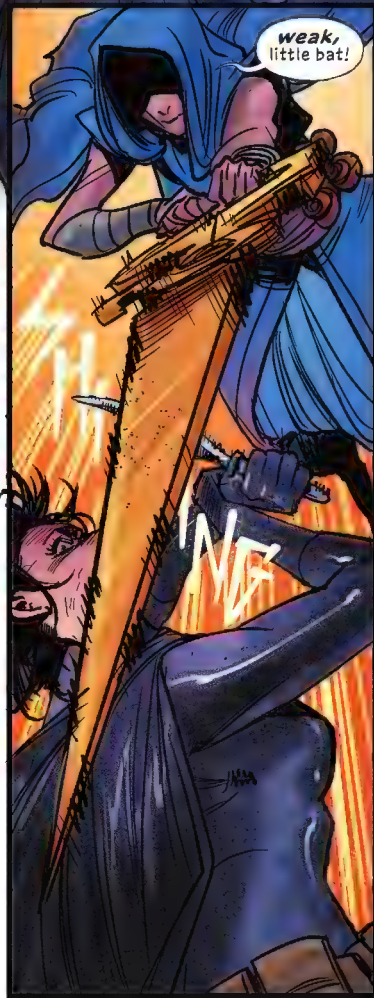
FIND THE
WORDS.

I...

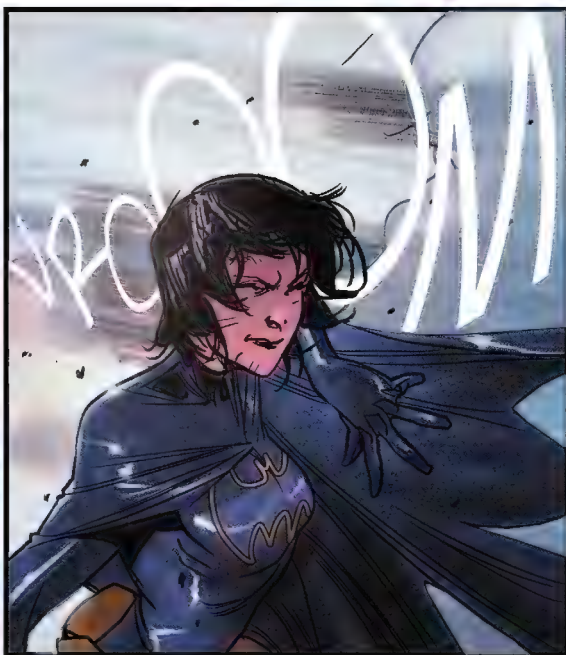
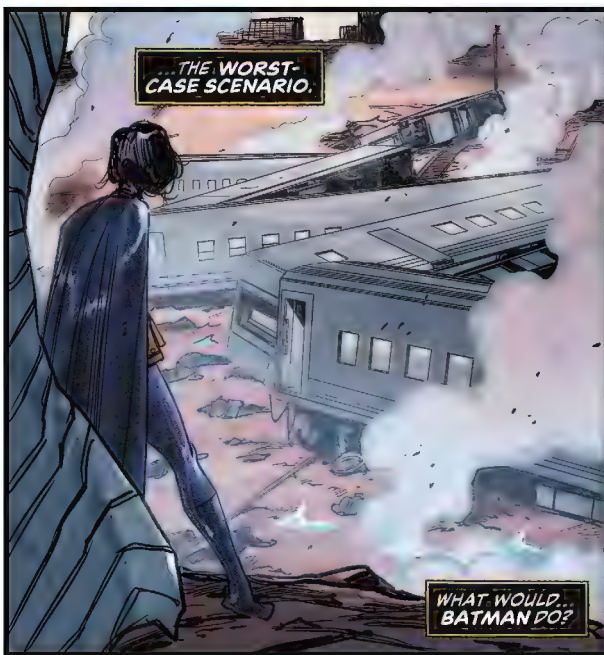
I--

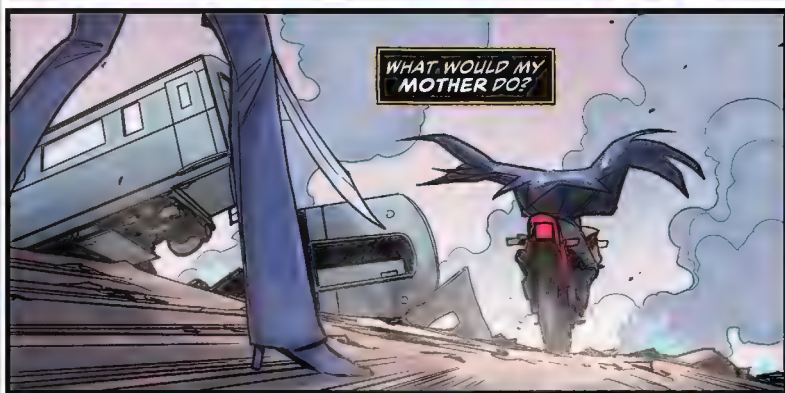
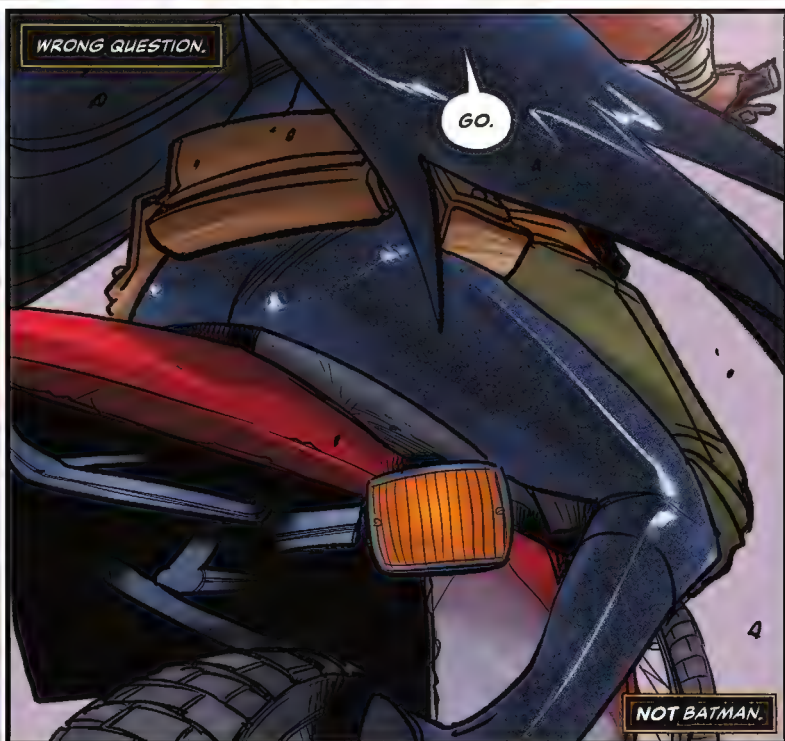
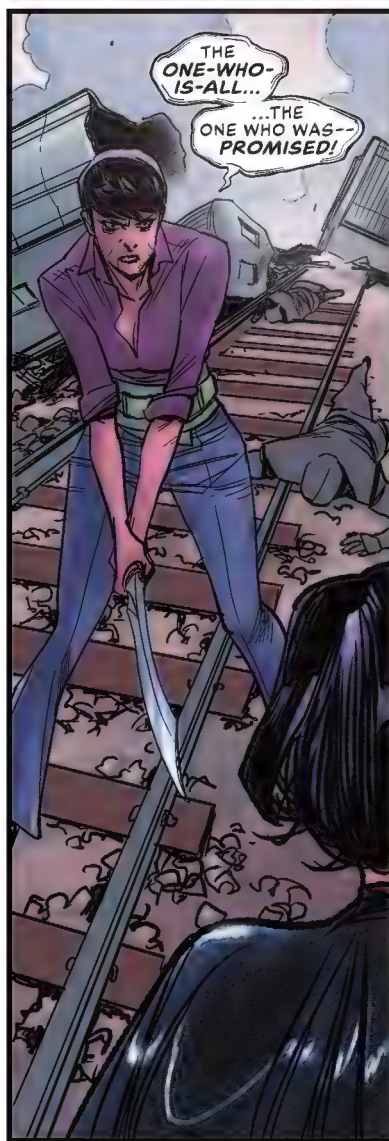
READ. PLAN. BEAT THE--





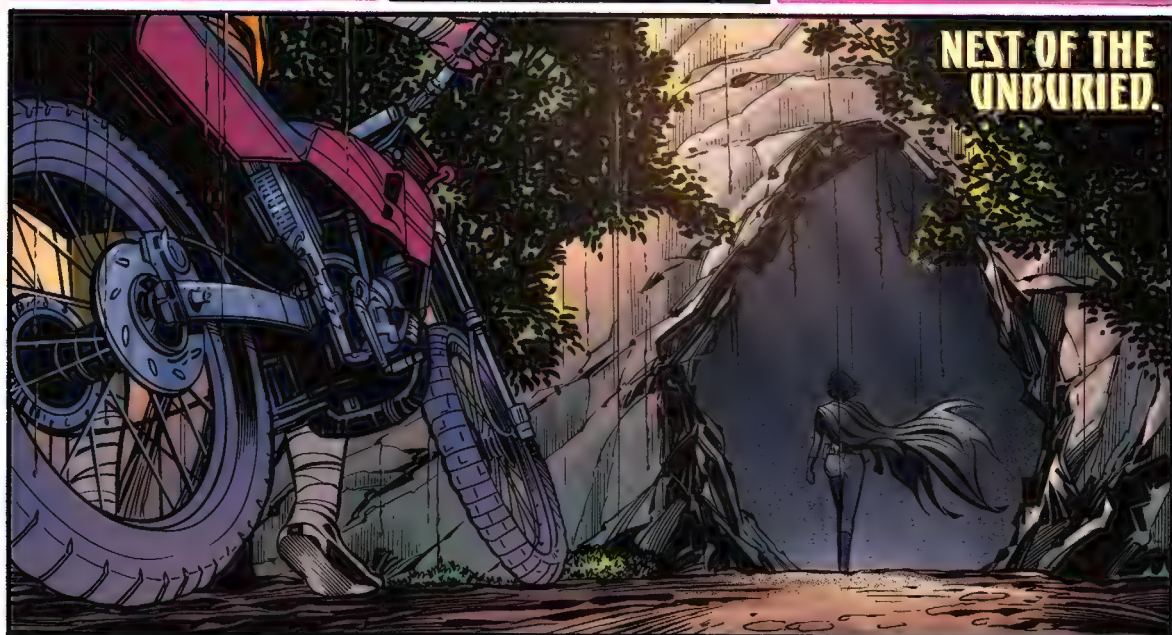
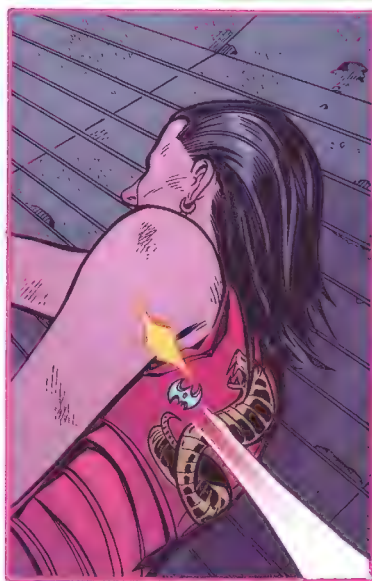


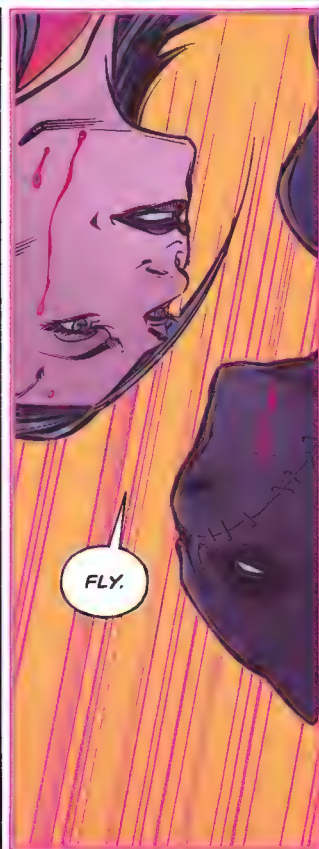
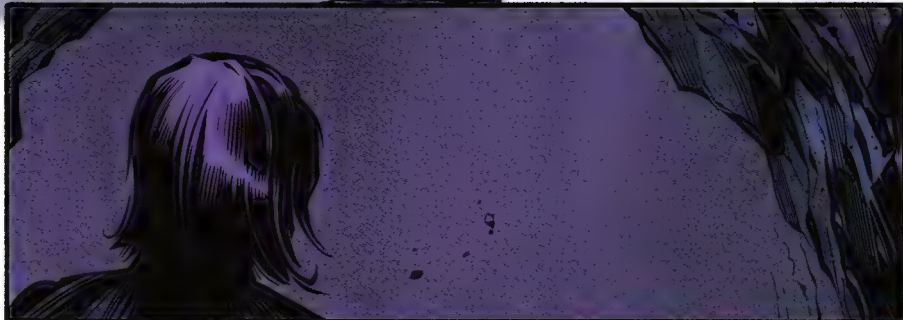
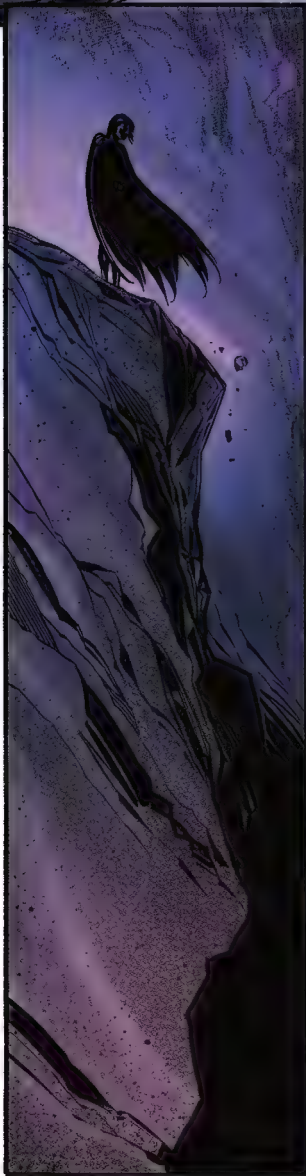




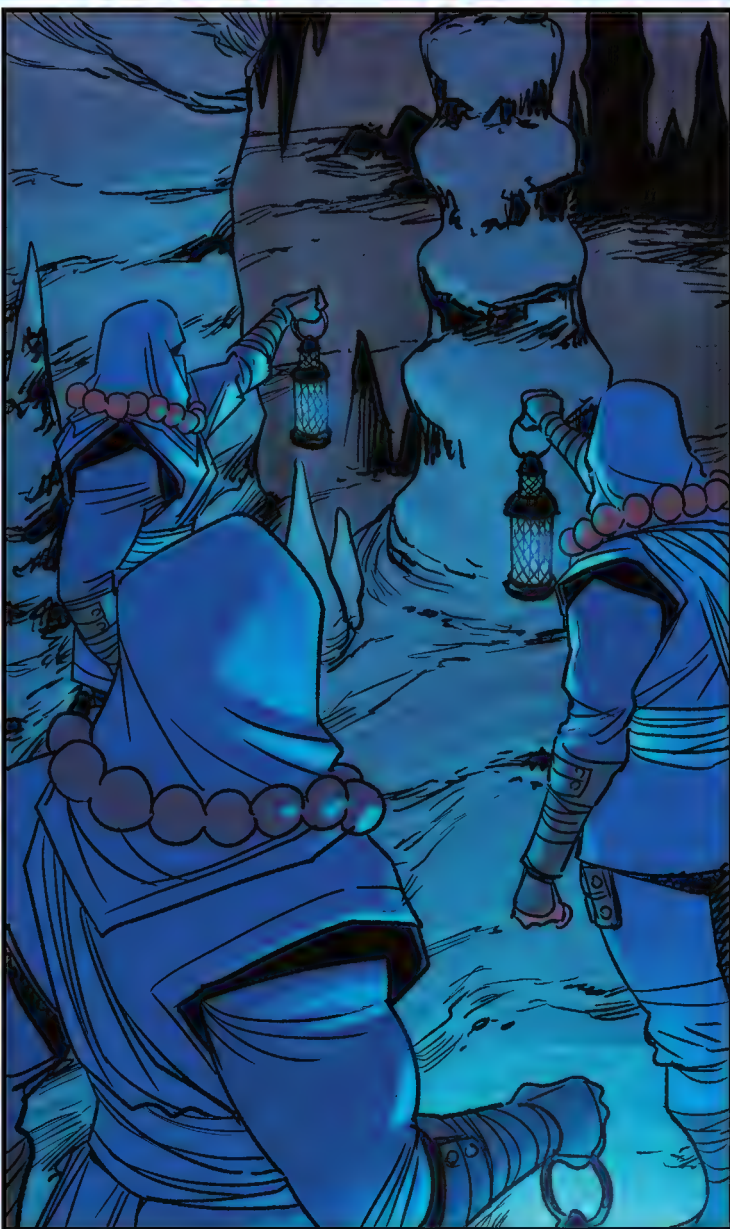
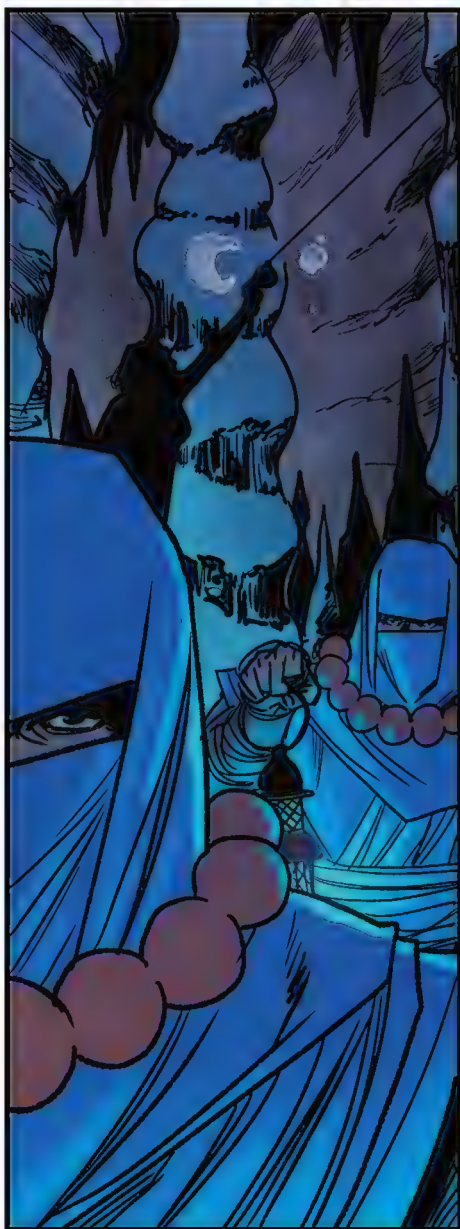
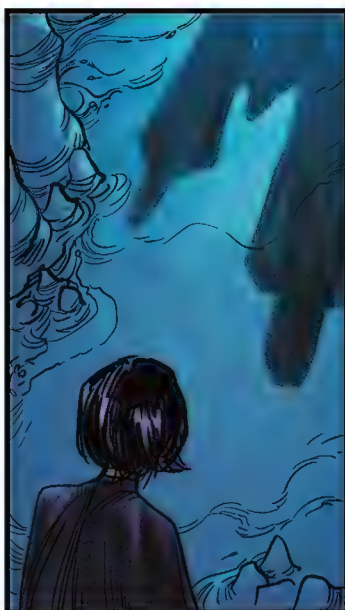


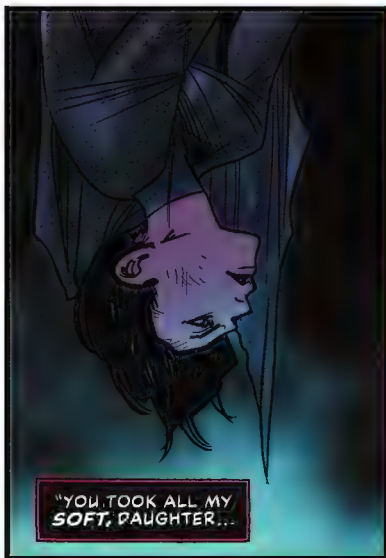
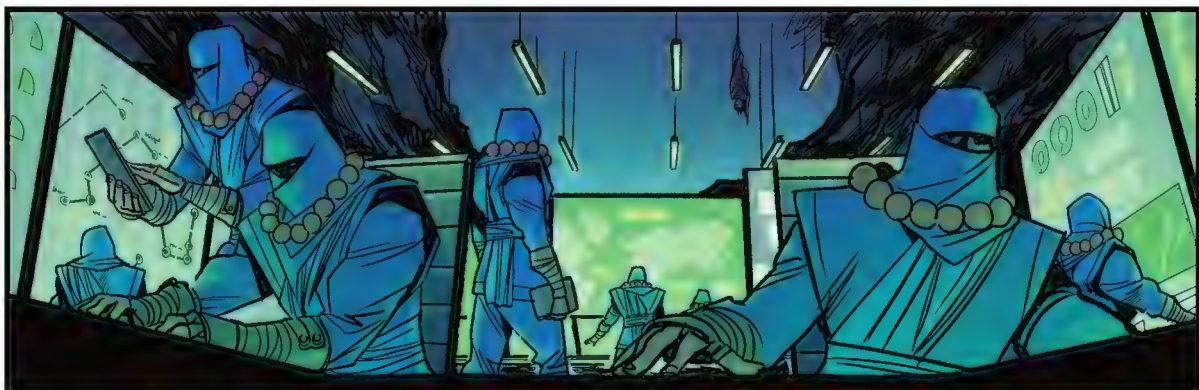
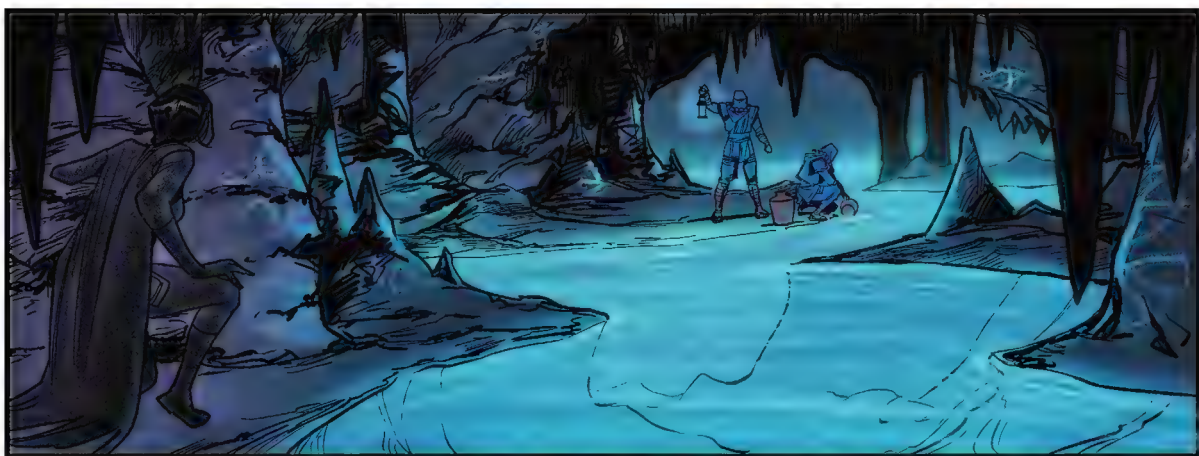




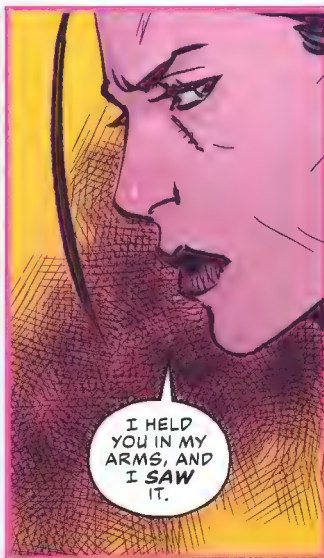








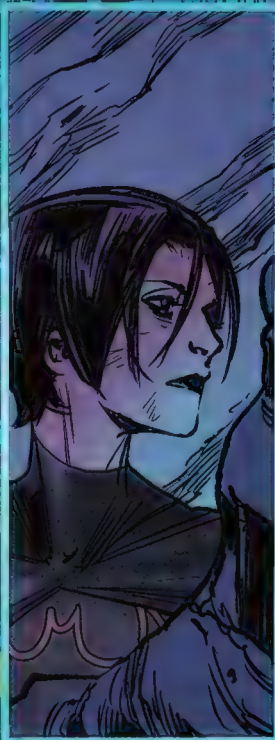
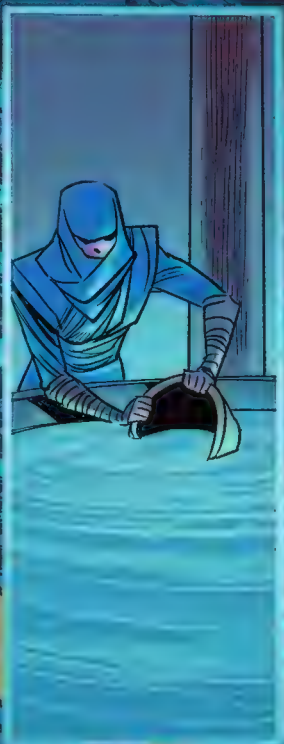
"YOU TOOK ALL MY
SOFT, DAUGHTER..."



I HELD
YOU IN MY
ARMS, AND
I SAW
IT.



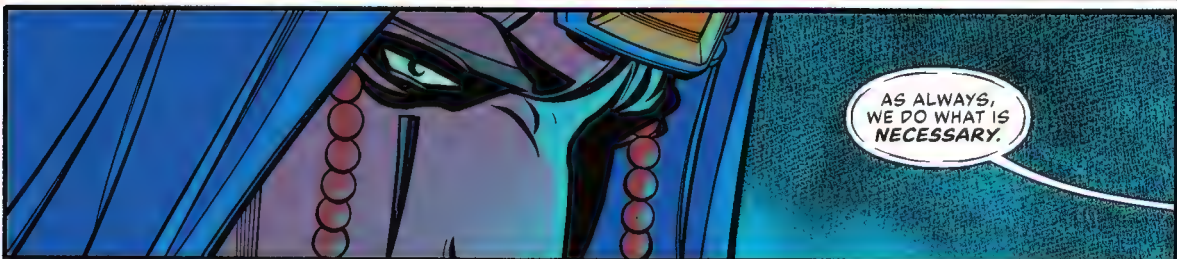
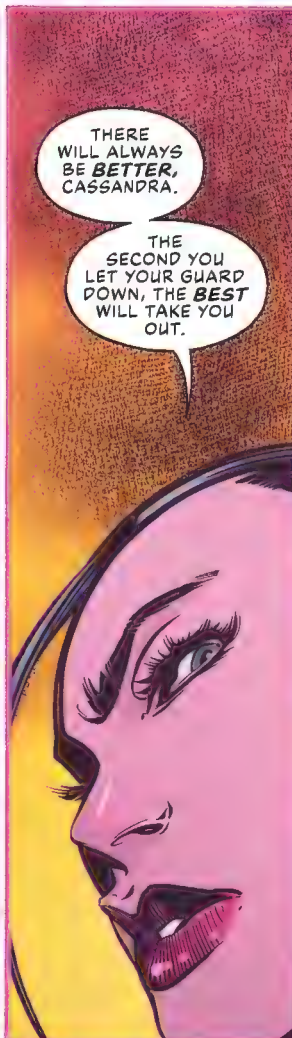
HEH-
HAHA!

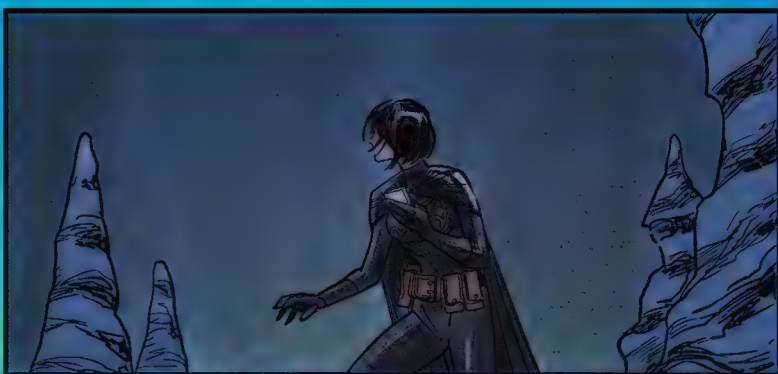


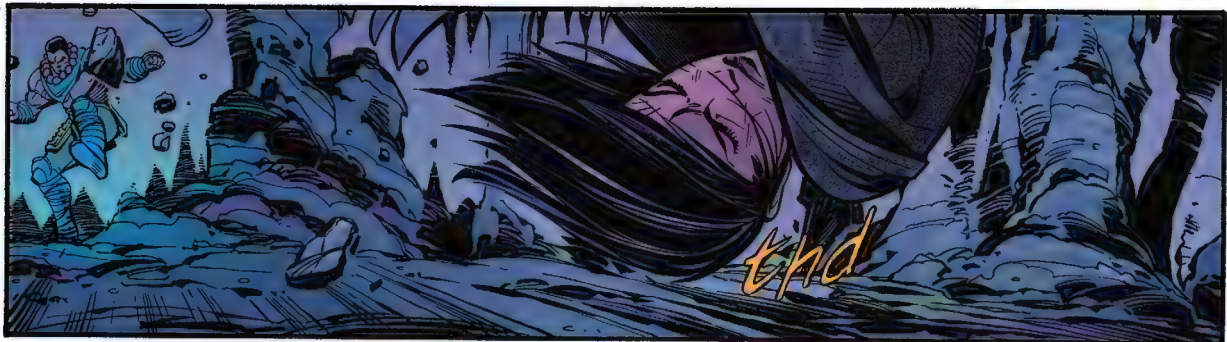
--EARS
ARE STILL
RINGING.

WOMAN
NEARLY
KILLED
ME!

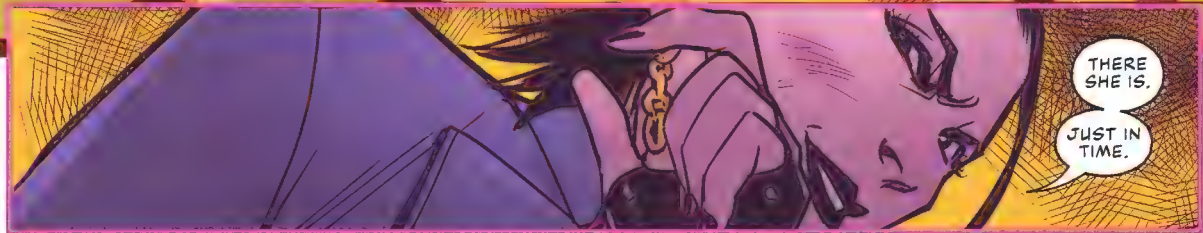


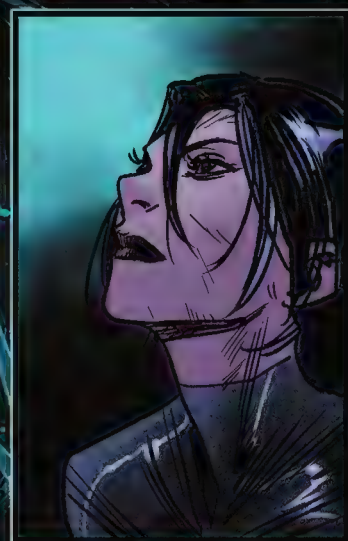
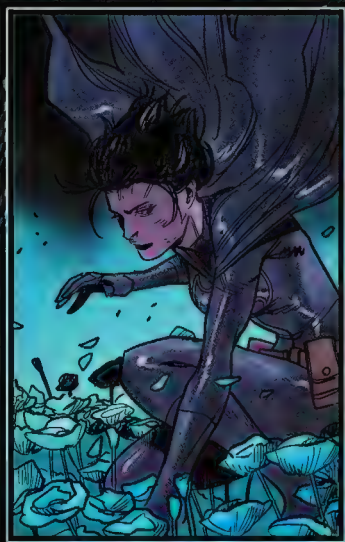


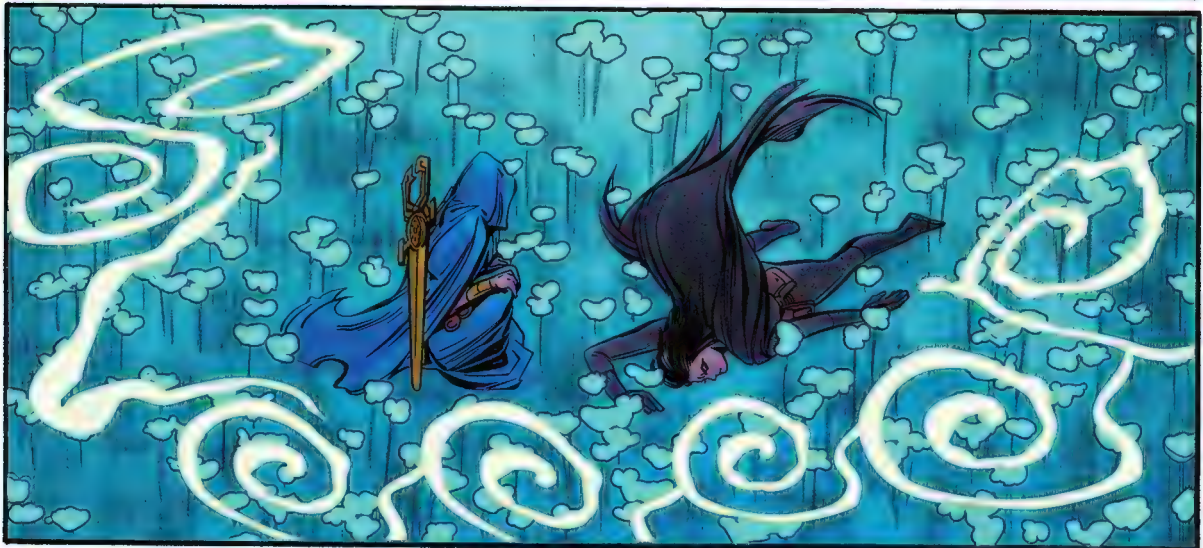
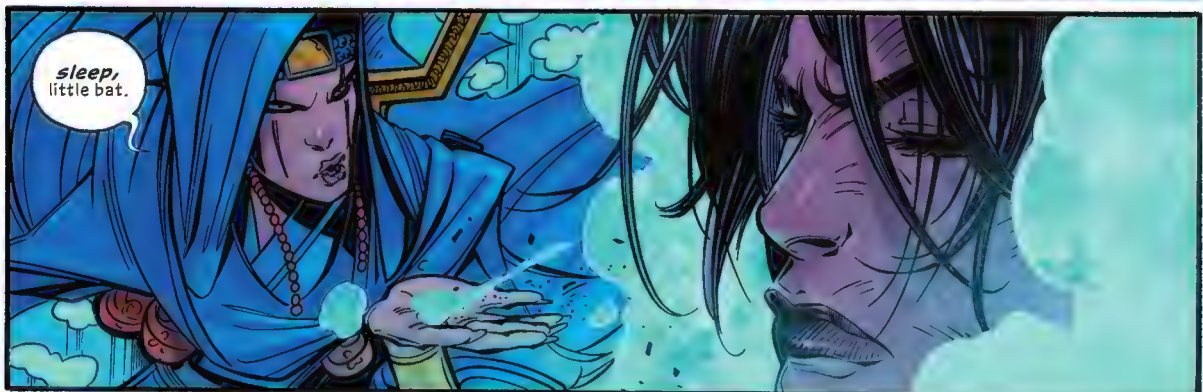
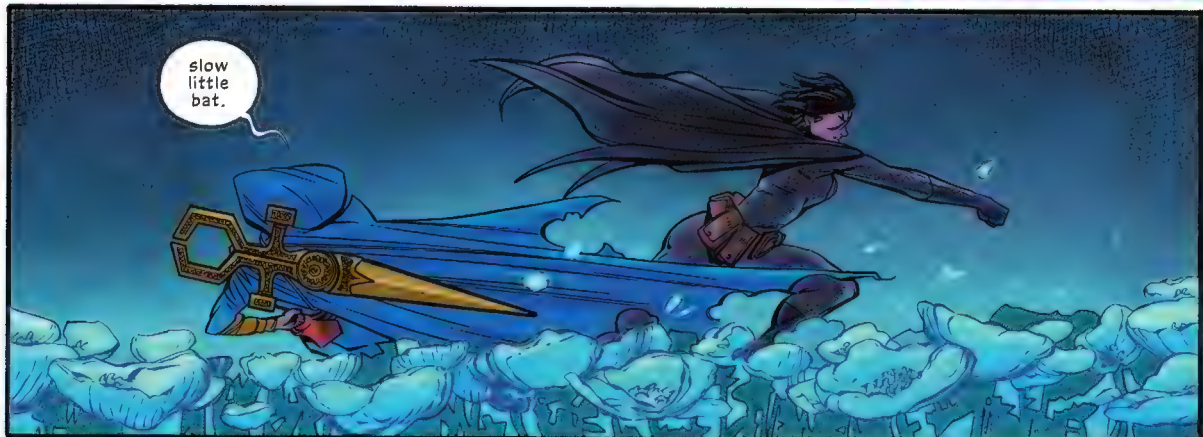














GLANCE.



WE'RE A LOT ALIKE, YOU AND I.

KRAK



TOUCH.



ONE YEAR FROM NOW, WE FIGHT.



I AM MORE!



HEARTBEAT.

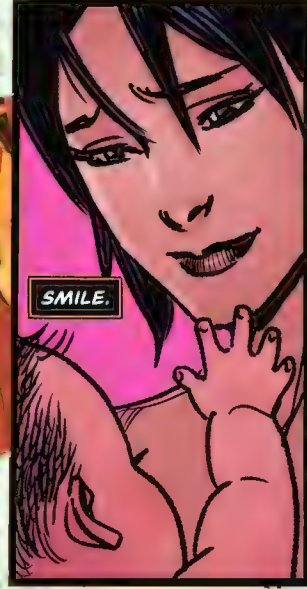


SO TELL ME...WHAT WAS IT LIKE?

DEATH, I MEAN.



SNAP

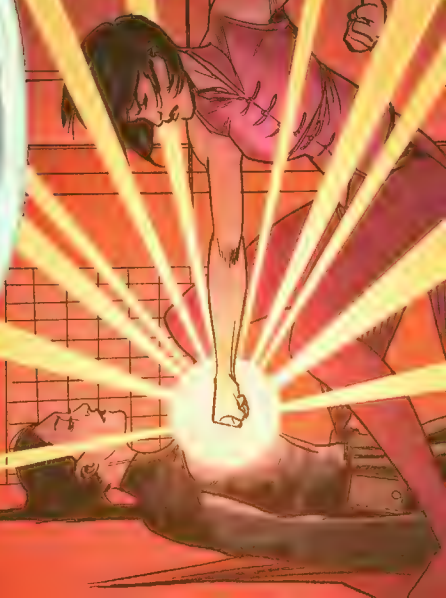


SMILE.



RISE...

...AND SHOW THEM WHAT YOU ARE.





HYUUUH!



HEY,
BATGIRL...



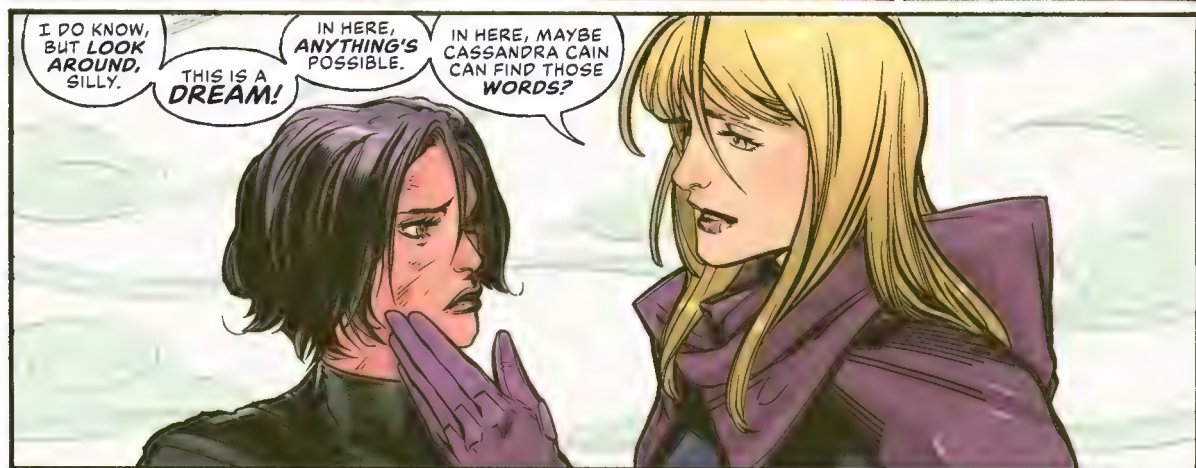
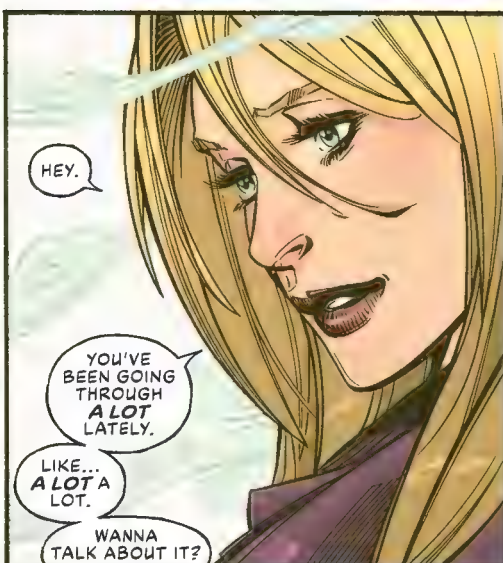
IT'S ME...
BATGIRL.



STEPHANIE!

HEH.
YOU
REALLY
MISS ME,
HUH?

YES.





MY **MOTHER**...
CAME BACK
INTO MY
LIFE.

RECENTLY.



AND WHENEVER
SHE SHOWS
UP...

...I
ALWAYS
FALL
APART.

LIKE I'M
SOME LOST...
LITTLE KID,
AGAIN, WITH
NO CONTROL
OF MY **OWN**
LIFE.



AND I DON'T
KNOW **WHY,**
STEPHANIE.

I REALLY
DON'T!

I-I NEVER EVEN **KNEW**
HER UNTIL I WAS
OLDER, AND...

...**YES,**
SOMETIMES
I WONDERED
ABOUT HER AS
A **CHILD,** BUT
MY FA--

DAVID
CAIN KEPT ME
ON A **SHORT**
LEASH WITH NO
ANSWERS!



I'VE SPENT MY
LIFE **UNLEARNING**
WHAT HE **TAUGHT**
ME, WHAT HE **DID**
TO ME.

HOW
TO HURT,
MANIPULATE, **KILL**
WITHOUT FEELING,
WITHOUT **HEART,** BUT
IT'S ALL ROOTED
SO DEEP INSIDE
ME. I ALWAYS
HOPED--

...MAYBE
MY MOTHER
WAS **INNOCENT?**
MAYBE PART OF
ME WAS...
GOOD?

BLAMELESS.
JUST ANOTHER
PAWN IN
CAIN'S CRUEL
GAME...?

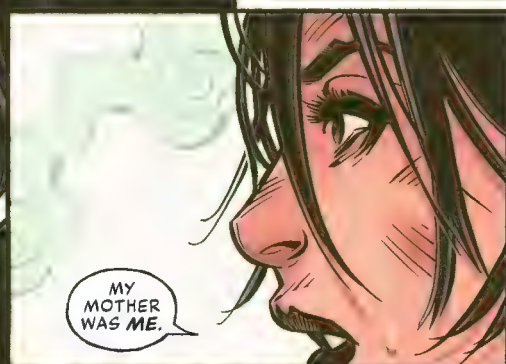


BUT THEN
I **MET** MY
MOTHER.

AND
I SAW A
KILLER.

SHE WAS
HEARTLESS,
HURTFUL,
MANIPULATIVE,
AND **CRUEL.**

SHE WAS
EVERYTHING I
HATED! SHE
WAS--



MY
MOTHER
WAS **ME.**



I LOOK AT HER, AND I SEE WHAT I WAS.

WHAT I AM, AND WHAT I WILL BECOME!



I CANNOT LOVE HER BECAUSE I DO NOT LOVE THOSE PARTS OF ME.

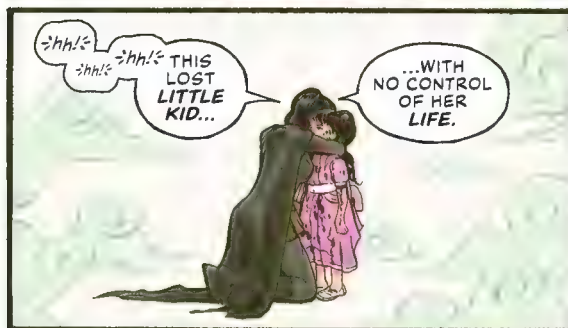
I LOVE HER BECAUSE SHE IS THOSE PARTS OF ME!

HOW DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?!

NOW, IT IS HER VOICE I HEAR IN MY HEAD.

IT IS HER LIFE I TRY TO SAVE BECAUSE IF I CAN SAVE HER, MAYBE I CAN--

MAYBE I CAN SAVE--



~hh!~ ~hh!~ THIS LOST LITTLE KID...

...WITH NO CONTROL OF HER LIFE.

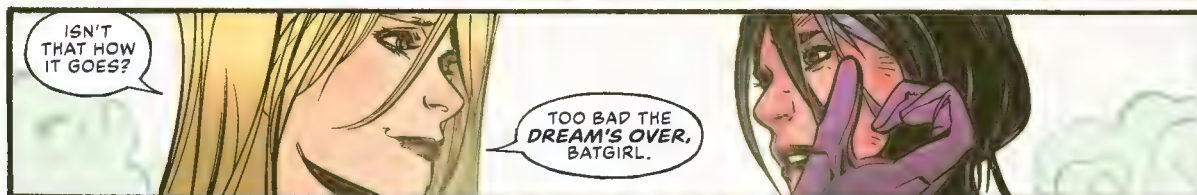


HEY, HEY, COME HERE.

HOW DO YOU FEEL?

BETTER.

~hh!~ WORSE.



ISN'T THAT HOW IT GOES?

TOO BAD THE DREAM'S OVER, BATGIRL.



TIME FOR YOU TO TAKE CONTROL AND--

WAKEUP



WAKE UP,
CASSANDRA!

DID YOU
GET YOUR
BEAUTY
SLEEP?

GOOD.

BECAUSE
OUR ENEMIES
WILL NOT *DEFEAT*
THEMSELVES, MY
DAUGHTER.

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

BATGIRL MOTHER PART 5 OF 6

TATE BROMBAL WRITER TAKESHI MIYAZAWA PENCILS AND INKS
WAYNE FAUCHER INKS MIKE SPICER COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS
DAVID TALASKI COVER KEVIN WADDA VARIANT COVER
JESSICA BERBEY EDITOR ROB LEVIN GROUP EDITOR





WHAT IS A MOTHER?

DON'T
LOOK AT ME
LIKE THAT,
CASSANDRA.

CAN'T
YOU
SEE?

IT'S HOW
WE FIRST
BEGAN...

SIMPLY THE PERSON WHO
BIRTHED YOU?... OR IS
SOMETHING MORE OWED?

WHAT IS A DAUGHTER?

...WE ONLY
HAVE EACH
OTHER
NOW.

MERELY A RELATION
DEMANDED BY BIRTH?...

...OR IS SOMETHING
MORE OWED?

BATMAN CHOSE ME
TO BE HIS DAUGHTER.
I CHOSE HIM AS
MY FATHER.

I DID NOT.
CHOOSE THIS.

BASED
UPON THIS
FAILURE OF A
RESCUE ATTEMPT,
YOU DO REALLY
NEED MY
HELP.

WHAT THEN
ARE THESE
TIES THAT
BIND US,
MOTHER?

I
WOULDN'T
BE HERE...IF
KALDEN HADN'T
FINISHED YOU
WITH A MERE
PUNCH.

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

BATGIRL

MOTHER PART 6 OF 6

TATE BROMBAL WRITER TAKESHI MIYAZAWA ARTIST

MIKE SPICER COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS

DAVID TALASKI COVER INHYUK LEE VARIANT COVER JESSICA BERBEY EDITOR ROB LEVIN GROUP EDITOR

WHY?

WHY WHAT,
DAUGHTER?

SPECIFY YOUR
QUESTION OR IT'S
A WASTED
JAB.

WHY...DO
THE UNBURIED
WANT YOU?

OTHERS
MAKE SENSE,
BUT WHY...YOU?



BECAUSE, GIRL OF BATS, **LADY SHIVA** IS THE ONE WHO... **WOKE US UP.**

KALDEN THE UNSEEN.

I APOLOGIZE FOR THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE A HERO OF THE WORLD **ABOVE**, AS I AM OF THE ONE **BELOW.**

THIS IS ALL SO... **BRUTAL.**



HOWEVER, I CAN SEE YOUR MOTHER HAS NOT BEEN ENTIRELY **HONEST** WITH YOU IN REGARD TO HER **TROUBLES** AND OUR **CRUSADE.**

ARE YOU **SURPRISED?**

YOU SEE, BATGIRL, I COME FROM A **VERY** LONG LINE OF PEACEFUL PEOPLE. **PEACE** WAS OUR **VERY** **FOUNDATION.**

MY ANCESTORS LIVED IN A **SACRED VALLEY** HIDDEN IN THE MOUNTAINS WHERE THE **SUN** ALWAYS SHONE. A **PARADISE** THAT WAS OPEN TO **ANY** WHO FOUND IT...

UNTIL WE WELCOMED A **CRUEL MAN** CENTURIES-BORN OF ENVY AND POWER. HE BROUGHT **BLOOD** TO OUR LANDS, AND FROM THAT HALLOWED GORE, **BLUE POPPIES** GREW.

RA'S AL GHUL RETURNED FOR OUR **TRAGIC BOON** WITH HIS **LEAGUE** AND THE **BLOOD OF WU.**

WAR SUNDERED OUR VALLEY UNTIL THE EARTH **SWALLOWED** MY PEOPLE WHOLE.

AND YET, WE FAVORED **PEACE**, BATGIRL. EVEN IN THE **RUINS** OF OUR SMALL NATION, **SUNKEN** AND FINDING ONLY **SHADOWS**... WE DID NOT SEEK VENGEANCE. WE **REBUILT.**

WE RESIGNED OURSELVES TO AN **UNDERWORLD** CARVED OF STONE. CHOOSING **DARKNESS** OUT OF FEAR AND ELUDING THOSE SEEKING TO **PLUNDER**, FORGETTING...

...THE **SUN** ONCE FAVORED US.



WHY SHIVA?

YOU
BLAME AL
GHUL, THE
BLOOD...
BUT NOT
SHIVA.

BEYOND
HER **TWISTED**
HISTORIES WITH
EACH...?

SOME TIME AGO, LADY
SHIVA DISCOVERED
OUR HIDDEN WORLD
BENEATH THE
HIMALAYAS.

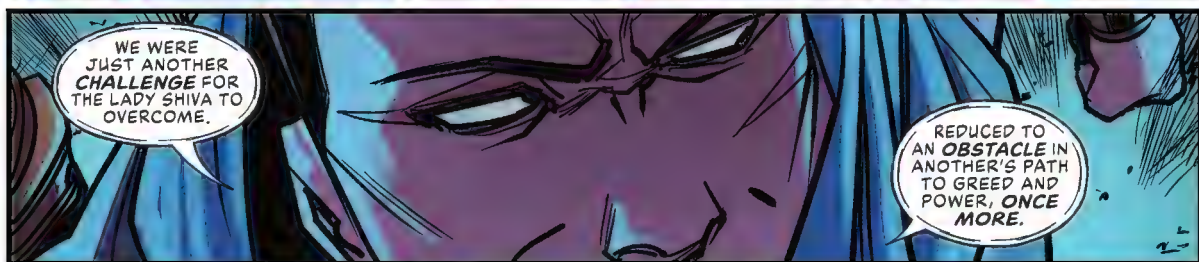
WE WERE
CAUTIOUS BUT
CURIOUS ABOUT
HER...

IT
HAD BEEN
GENERATIONS
SINCE CONTACT
WITH THE
SURFACE.

WE HAD
QUESTIONS, SO MANY
NEEDS, SO WE FOLLOWED
OUR ANCESTORS' WAYS
AND WELCOMED HER
INTO OUR **BURIED**
HOME.

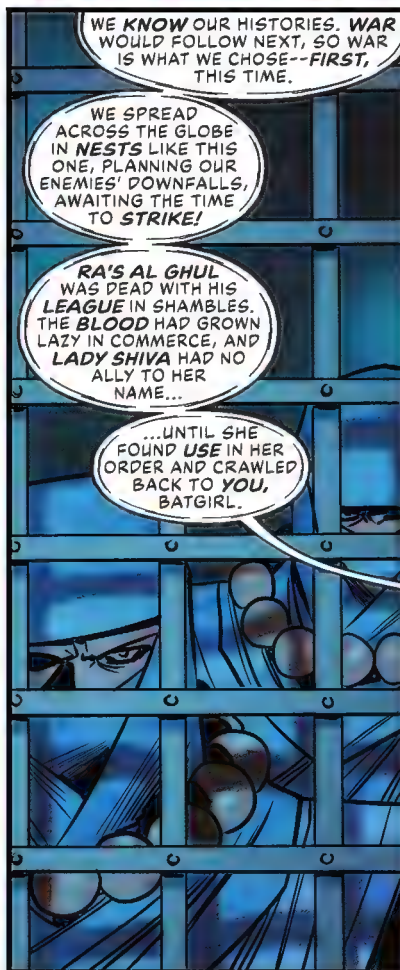
YOUR MOTHER
ATE OUR FOOD,
EARNED OUR TRUST,
TRAINED IN OUR
WAYS...

...THEN
STOLE OUR
SACRED POPPIES
AND **BETRAYED**
US!



WE WERE
JUST ANOTHER
CHALLENGE FOR
THE LADY SHIVA TO
OVERCOME.

REDUCED TO
AN **OBSTACLE** IN
ANOTHER'S PATH
TO GREED AND
POWER, **ONCE**
MORE.



WE **KNOW** OUR HISTORIES. **WAR**
WOULD FOLLOW NEXT, SO WAR
IS WHAT WE CHOSE--**FIRST**,
THIS TIME.

WE SPREAD
ACROSS THE GLOBE
IN **NESTS** LIKE THIS
ONE, PLANNING OUR
ENEMIES' DOWNFALLS,
AWAITING THE TIME
TO **STRIKE!**

RA'S AL GHUL
WAS DEAD WITH HIS
LEAGUE IN SHAMBLES.
THE **BLOOD** HAD GROWN
LAZY IN COMMERCE, AND
LADY SHIVA HAD NO
ALLY TO HER
NAME...

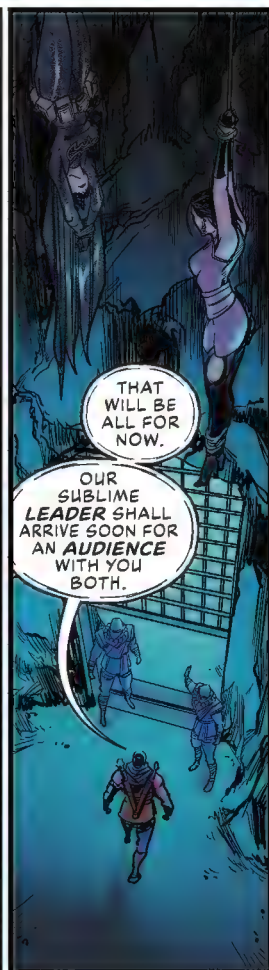
...UNTIL SHE
FOUND **USE** IN HER
ORDER AND CRAWLED
BACK TO **YOU**,
BATGIRL.



YOUR MOTHER **WOKE** US FROM
COMPLACENCY, REMINDED US OF
OUR **CRUEL ORIGINS**, SPARKED
THIS RAZING **ABOVE** FOR
WHAT HAPPENED
BELOW.

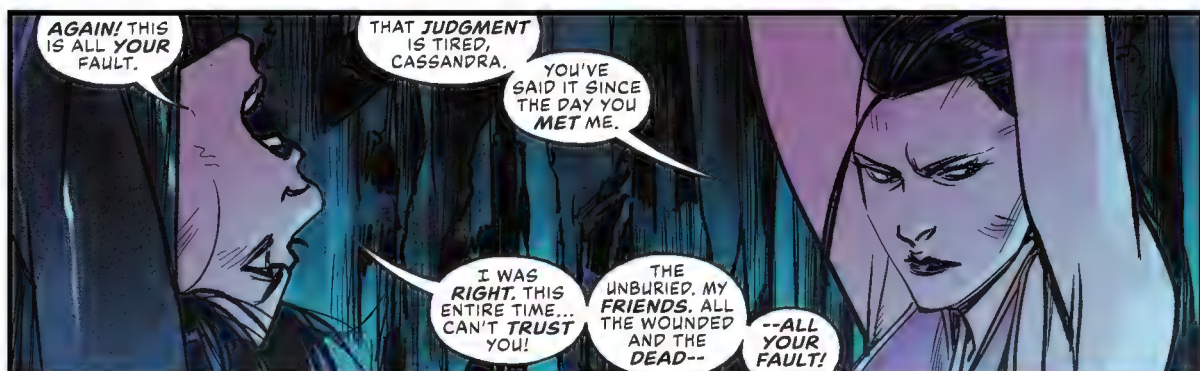
PEACE
ONLY SERVES
THOSE WHO PROSPER
FROM IT, AND MY PEOPLE
HAVE BEEN DENIED
THE **SUN** FOR FAR
TOO LONG.

WHAT
IS **BURIED**
WILL ALWAYS
COME TO
LIGHT!



THAT
WILL BE
ALL FOR
NOW.

OUR
SUBLIME
LEADER SHALL
ARRIVE SOON FOR
AN **AUDIENCE**
WITH YOU
BOTH.



AGAIN! THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT.

THAT JUDGMENT IS TIRED, CASSANDRA.

YOU'VE SAID IT SINCE THE DAY YOU MET ME.

I WAS RIGHT. THIS ENTIRE TIME... CAN'T TRUST YOU!

THE UNBURIED. MY FRIENDS. ALL THE WOUNDED AND THE DEAD--

--ALL YOUR FAULT!



WHY?

SPECIFY, CASSAN--

WHY DID YOU DO IT?

THEY WERE GOOD, PEACEFUL...

...WHY?!



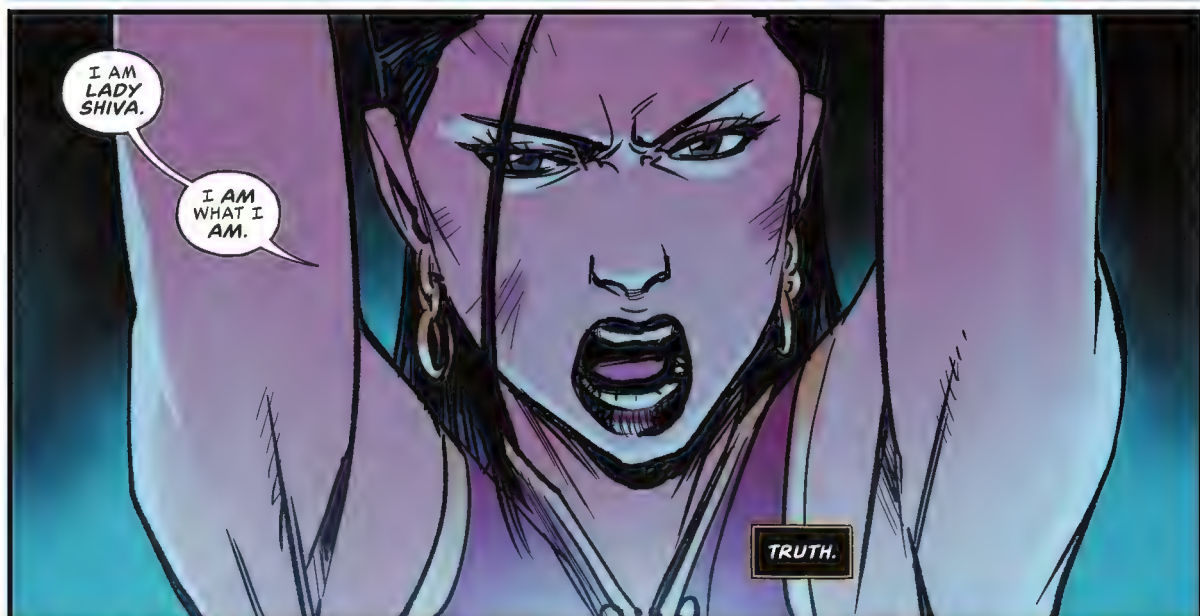
...

IT IS AS KALDEN SAID.

I RAN OUT OF CHALLENGES ABOVE...AND SO I SEARCHED BELOW.

PAIN.

AVOIDANCE.



I AM LADY SHIVA.

I AM WHAT I AM.

TRUTH.



SAHEM

SORRY I'M LATE...

!



...I FOR ONE THOUGHT HE'D NEVER SHUT UP.

JAYESH?!

I KNOW, LITTLE BAT, I WAS MEANT TO REMAIN WITH THE GETAWAY BIKE...



...BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED MY HELP.



THANK YOU.

IT IS WHAT I DO.



ENOUGH IDLE SENTIMENT.

THERE ARE DEBTS TO SETTLE, AND I SEEK TO BURN THIS UNDERWORLD TO ASHES.



NO! I ONLY CAME TO RESCUE YOU.

WELL, THE HIGH PRIEST RESCUED ME.

NO MORE DEATH!

DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE YOU COMMAND DEATH HERSELF? SHE IS ALWAYS CALLING.

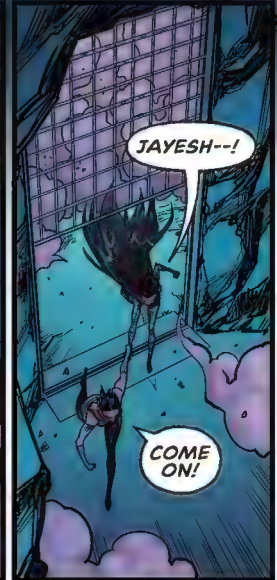
YOU CAN EITHER WIELD HER OR FOREVER BE AT HER MER--

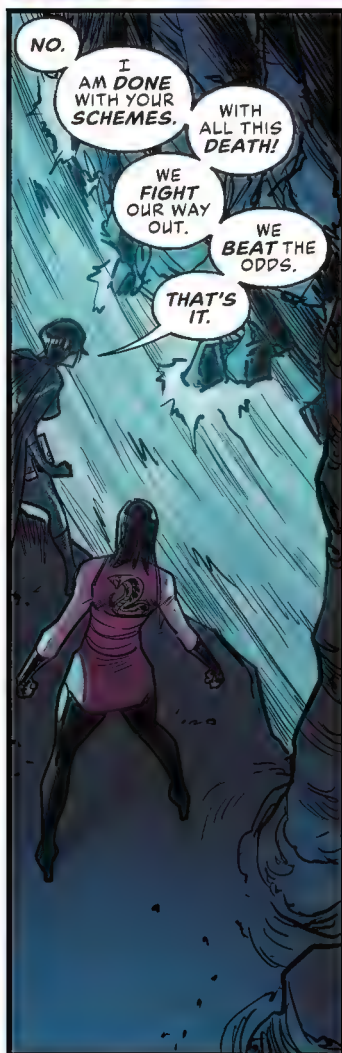
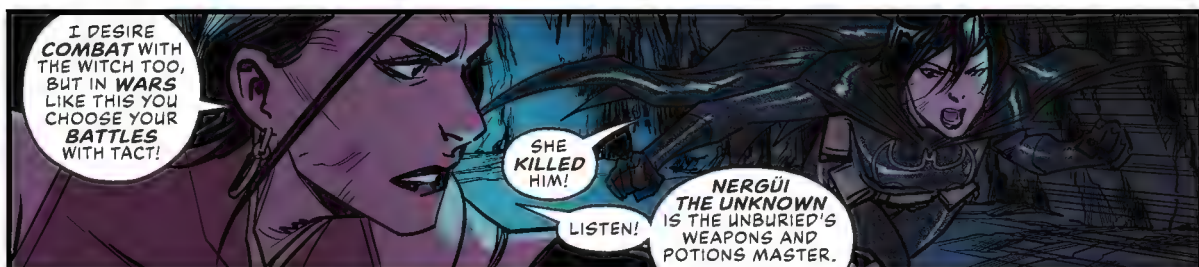


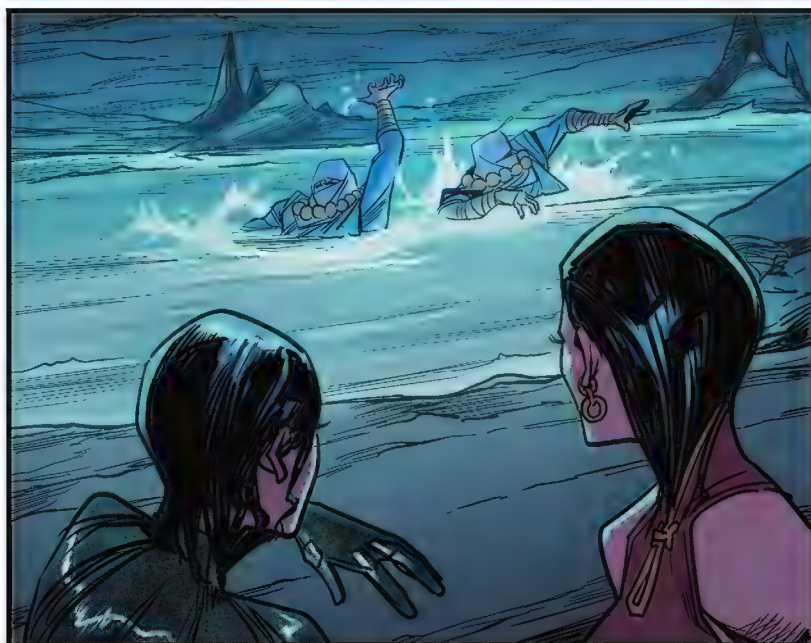
snip
snip.

TELL...

...MY DAUGHTER--









WE NEED A PLAN AND AN EXIT.

THERE IS ONE EXIT. I CAME DOWN IT.

THEY HAVE THE ADVANTAGE. GENERATIONS HAVE ADAPTED TO THE WORLD BELOW.

EVEN WITH LIMITED SIGHT, KALDEN HAS TRAINED BEYOND HIS NEED FOR VISION.



WHO LEADS THEM?

WHAT?

KALDEN SAID THERE IS ANOTHER. A **SUBLIME** LEADER.

WHO LEADS THE UNBURIED?



THEY ARE LED BY THE **STRONGEST** OF THEM, DETERMINED ONLY THROUGH **COMBAT**.

IF THIS LEADER DEFEATED KALDEN, DESPITE HIS AUGMENTED **SPEED** AND **SENSES**...

...THEN I PRAY YOU NEVER FACE THEM, CASSANDRA, TILL THE DAY YOU ARE **READY**.



NOW LET US REACH THAT EXIT, RAINING FIRE AS WE GO.

NO.

AGAIN? WHAT IS THIS TEMPER?

YOU HAVE LIED AND... **TOYED** WITH ME TOO LONG.



I HAVE DONE **NO** SUCH THING.

THE UNBURIED WERE AT **PEACE** UNTIL YOU.

I WAS AT **PEACE** UNTIL YOU!

DON'T KID YOURSELF.

YOU HAD GROWN **STAGNANT**, **LAZY**, AND **PACIFIED** BY THAT PATHETIC FAMILY!

A FAMILY I **CHOSE**. YOU ONLY RUIN AND **DESTROY**. NO MORE BURNING **SACRED** THINGS!



WHAT DO YOU NOT UNDERSTAND--?!

YOU ARE **SACRED** TO ME, DAUGHTER.

TOUCH.

PRESSURE.

AND THAT IS A WAR I WILL NOT LOSE!

ANGER.

HEARTBEAT.



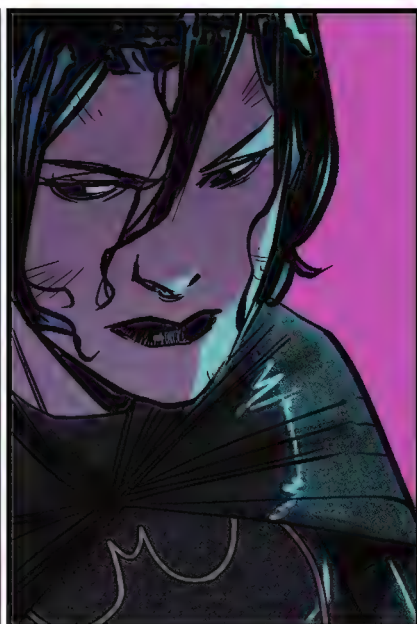
WHY...?

WASTED
JAB.

YOU
BROUGHT ME
TO BA BAO FOR
HEALING.

YOU
CAME HERE
TO RESCUE
ME FROM
DEATH.

WHY, AFTER
EVERYTHING,
DO YOU CHOOSE
ME ONLY TO THEN
RESIST ME
SO...?



YOU ARE MY
MOTHER.

I WAS
BORN A
WOUND.

I WANT
TO TRUST YOU.
TO CHOOSE YOU.
BUT EVERY SINGLE
TIME...THERE IS
PAIN.

AND I
AM TIRED...
OF PAIN.



SOME
WOUNDS
NEVER
HEAL.

WE ARE
WHAT WE
ARE.



I WILL
HELP YOU
ESCAPE.

THEN
I AM
DONE.

AND I
NEVER WANT
TO SEE YOU
AGAIN.



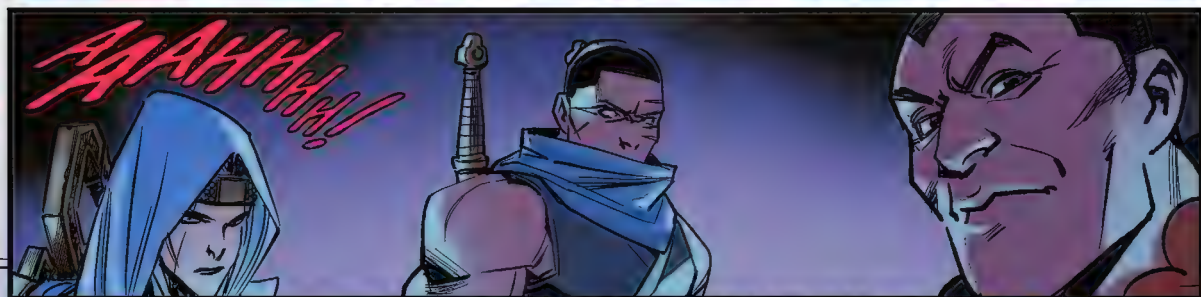
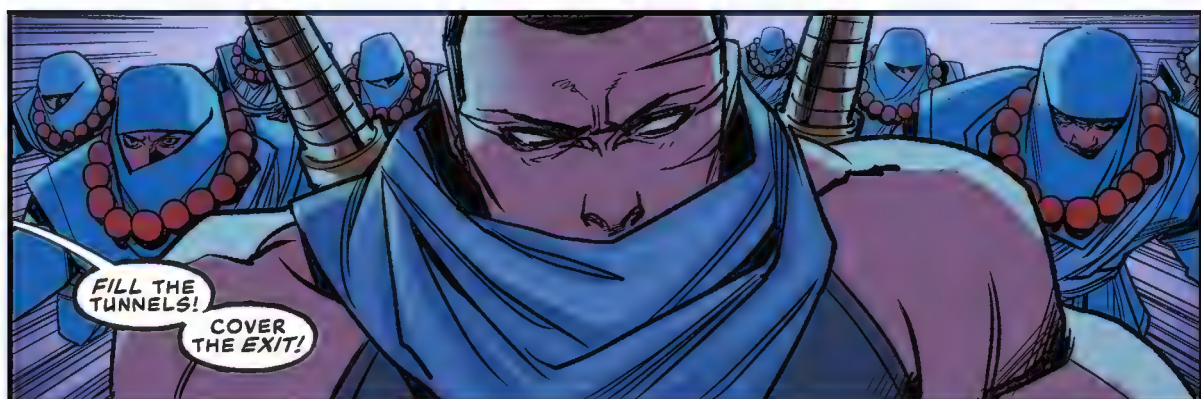
AS YOU
WISH.

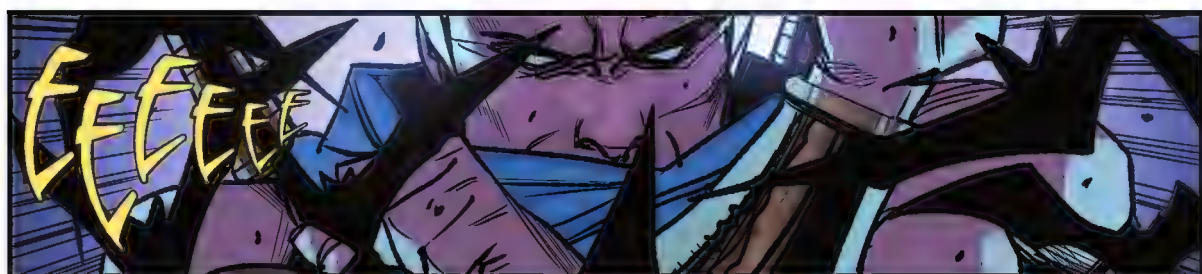


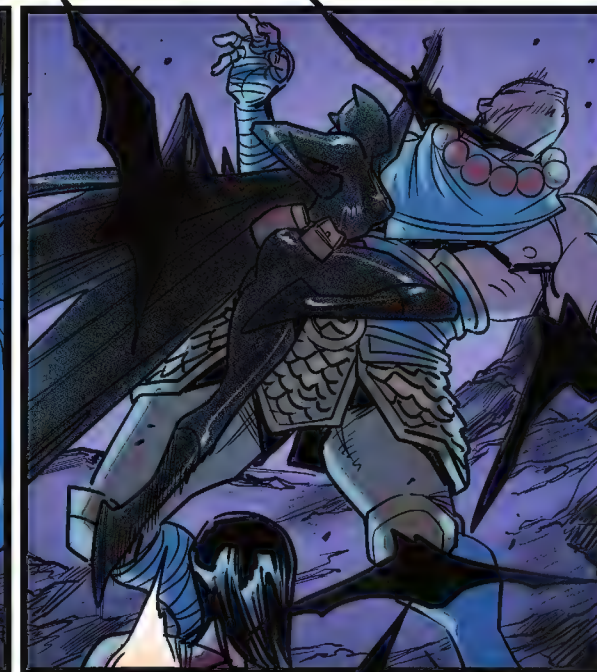
WHAT DO
YOU PROPOSE,
THEN, DAUGHTER
OF THE BAT?



SOMETHING
MY FATHER
TAUGHT ME.

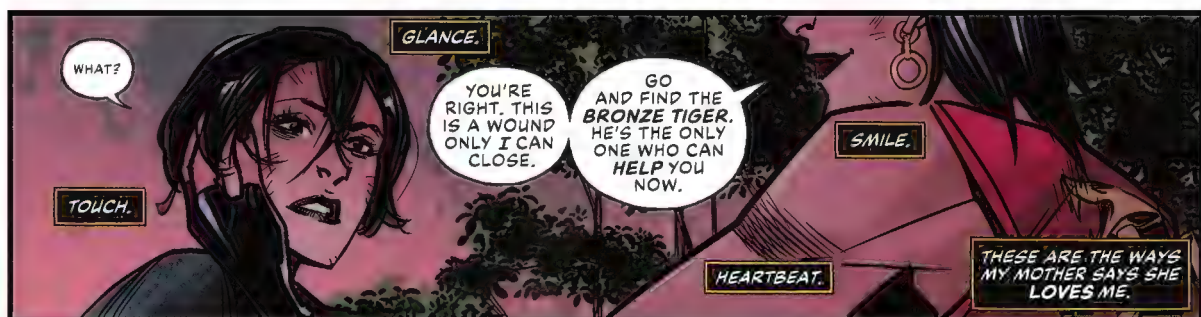












WHAT?

GLANCE.

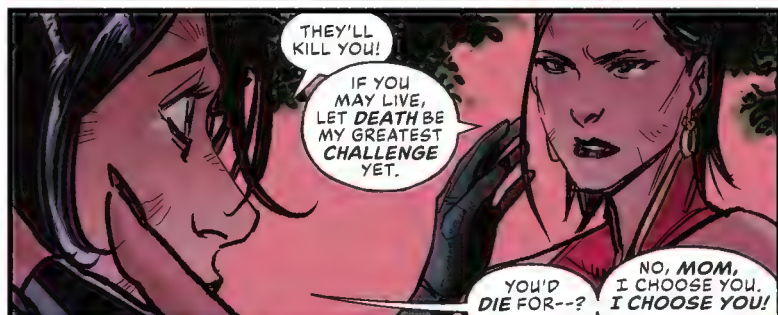
YOU'RE
RIGHT. THIS
IS A WOUND
ONLY I CAN
CLOSE.

GO
AND FIND THE
BRONZE TIGER.
HE'S THE ONLY
ONE WHO CAN
HELP YOU
NOW.

SMILE.

THESE ARE THE WAYS
MY MOTHER SAYS SHE
LOVES ME.

HEARTBEAT.



THEY'LL
KILL YOU!

IF YOU
MAY LIVE,
LET DEATH BE
MY GREATEST
CHALLENGE
YET.

YOU'D
DIE FOR--?

NO, MOM,
I CHOOSE YOU.
I CHOOSE YOU!

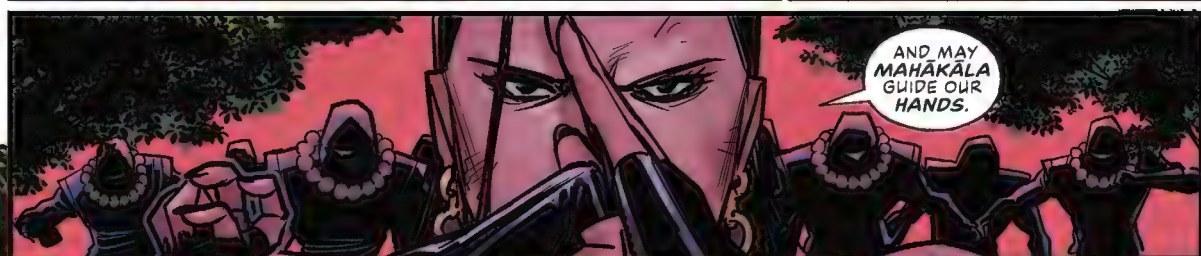


GO! LET ME BE SOFT
ONCE MORE, MY
SOFTNESS!

FIND
BENJAMIN
TURNER!

ASK HIM
ABOUT--

--THE
JADE
TIGER!



AND MAY
MAHAKALA
GUIDE OUR
HANDS.

WHAT IS A MOTHER?



SIMPLY THE
PERSON WHO
BIRTHED YOU?

NO. SOMETHING
MORE IS OWED.

A MOTHER PROTECTS.



A MOTHER TEACHES.



SHE CAUSES PAIN, YES--



--JUST AS SHE NURTURES.



A MOTHER ALWAYS SACRIFICES...



...IN THE NAME OF HER CHILD.

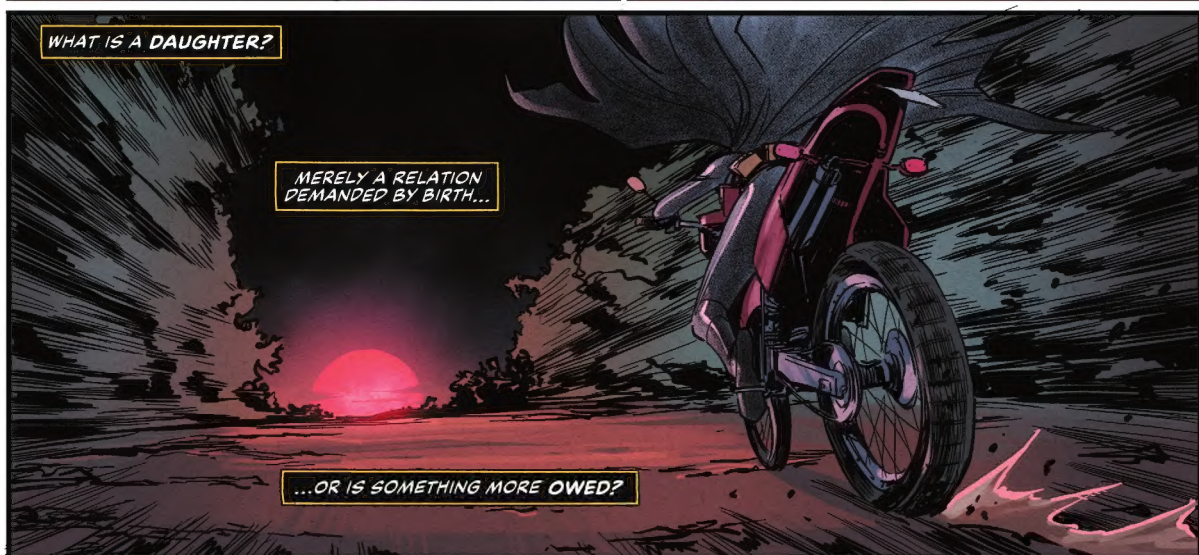


SO HER CHILD MAY LIVE--



--EVEN AS SHE DIES.





--IN LIFE AND IN DEATH.

CASSANDRA CAIN IS BACK IN THE SPOTLIGHT AS BATGIRL,

AND READY FOR THE DEADLIEST MOTHER/DAUGHTER TEAM-UP IN COMIC BOOK HISTORY!



Hold on to your seats and rejoice in celebration because Cassandra Cain is taking center stage as Batgirl as part of DC's bestselling All In initiative!

When the Unburied shows up to kill Batgirl, her mother, Lady Shiva—one of the deadliest assassins in the DC Universe—comes to her aid, and they must put their complicated past aside and work together as mother and daughter to ensure they make it out alive. Unfortunately, things are never as easy as they seem, and Cass must embark

on a jaw-dropping, martial-arts-filled adventure in her quest for truth, justice... and revenge?!

It's a Batgirl story like none before, as writer **Tate Brombal** (*House of Slaughter*) and artist **Takeshi Miyazawa** (*Mech Cadet Yu*) dive into the psyche of one of Gotham's fiercest fighters while exploring her deep and complex relationship with her mother.

This volume collects *Batgirl* #1-6.

VOL. 1



SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

